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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

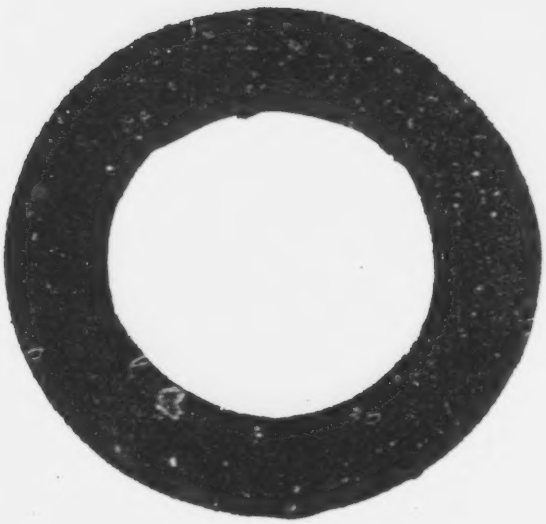
ANNUAL REPORT

(22 April 1989 – 27 April 1990)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
OFFICIAL RECORDS, 1990

SUPPLEMENT No. 12

UNITED NATIONS



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NOTE

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters combined with figures. Mention of such a symbol indicates a reference to a United Nations document.

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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Annual Report covering the period from 22 April 1989 to 27 April 1990

INTRODUCTION

1. The present Annual Report was adopted unanimously by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) at the twelfth meeting of its forty-fifth session on 27 April 1990.

CHAPTER I

ISSUES CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

2. No draft decisions were recommended by the Commission for action by the Council.

CHAPTER II

WORK OF THE COMMISSION SINCE ITS FORTY-FOURTH SESSION

A. Activities of subsidiary bodies

3. A list of meetings held since the forty-fourth session is contained in Annex II, showing in each case the dates, the officers and the symbols of the report. These reports reflect the discussions held and record the agreements reached and decisions taken. The reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies contain also the programmes of work adopted by these bodies.

B. Other activities

4. Pursuant to the resolutions and decisions of the Commission, the Executive Secretary submitted to the forty-fifth session a number of progress reports on projects carried out under the direct authority of the Commission itself. (See Annex III)

5. The secretariat serviced the regular session of the Commission, meetings of its subsidiary bodies, and other meetings held under its auspices. Periodic reviews, including the annual Economic Survey of Europe, the Economic Bulletin for Europe, a series of specialized statistical bulletins, and monthly statistical indicators of short-term economic changes in ECE countries, were published. The secretariat maintained close and regular liaison with United Nations Headquarters and co-operated with the Departments concerned, as well as with the secretariats of the other regional commissions on projects of common interest.

C. Relations with other United Nations Programmes

6. The co-operation of the Commission and its secretariat in 1989/1990 with United Nations specialized agencies and other international organizations, as well as with their secretariats is described in document E/ECE/1202.

CHAPTER III

FORTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

A. Attendance and organization of work

7. The forty-fifth session of the Commission was held from 18 to 27 April 1990. The Commission heard statements by the Chairman and by the Executive Secretary and a message from the Secretary General of the United Nations.

8. The forty-fifth session was attended by representatives from Albania; Austria; Belgium; Bulgaria; Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic; Canada; Cyprus; Czechoslovakia; Denmark; Finland; France; German Democratic Republic; Germany, Federal Republic of; Greece; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland; Italy; Luxembourg; Malta; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic; Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America and Yugoslavia.

9. Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the Commission's terms of reference.

10. Egypt, Israel, Japan, the Philippines and Tunisia were represented under article 11 of the Commission's terms of reference.

11. The session was attended by representatives of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) and the European Economic Community (EEC).

12. Representatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the following specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations were in attendance: International Labour Organisation (ILO); Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); World Bank; International Monetary Fund (IMF); United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

13. The following non-governmental organizations were represented: International Chamber of Commerce (ICC); International Council of Women (ICW); International Federation of Business and Professional Women (IFBPW); International Organization for Standardization (ISO); International Bar Association (IBA); International Council of Environmental Law (ICEL); International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC); International Federation of University Women (IFUW).

14. Also present at the invitation of the secretariat was a representative of the secretariat of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

15. A complete list of participants can be found in document E/ECE(45)/L.2 and Corr.1.

16. The Commission decided to pass to the Sessional Committee, in addition to agenda item 2(f) - Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission - the following agenda items, for preliminary consideration:

2(e) - Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work

7(a) - Work of the Sessional Committee

7(b) - Climate change

7(c) - Statistical activities

7(d) - Co-operation in the field of transport

7(e) - Earthquake prediction

7(f) - The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

7(g) - The Commission's contribution to the Follow-up of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

7(h) - Co-operation in the field of environmental protection and water resources

7(i) - Air pollution

7(j) - Evolution in the dimensions of loading units

7(k) - EDIFACT

7(l) - Co-operation in the field of transport

7(n) - Standardization and related activities

7(o) - Engineering industries and automation

7(p) - Medium and long term economic prospects and issues: analysis of economic growth conditions

8 - Programme of work for 1990-1994

17. The Sessional Committee met from 19 to 26 April 1990. The account of the consideration by the Sessional Committee of item 2(f) can be found in paragraphs 74 to 200 below. The account of the discussion on those items which had been assigned to the Sessional Committee for preliminary consideration, referred to above, are contained in paragraphs 73, 231-271, 278-293 and 300-307 below. For the recommendations of the Sessional Committee to the Plenary and the action taken by the Commission on these recommendations, see paragraphs 294 to 299 below.

B. Agenda

18. The Commission adopted its agenda (E/ECE/1198 and Corr.1) which read as follows:

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Work of the Commission as a whole, including:

(a) The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1989 (Commission resolution 2 (XXV)) E/ECE/1199

(b) Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly E/ECE/1200

(c) Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries E/ECE/1201

	(d) Co-operation with other international organizations	E/ECE/1202
	(e) Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work (Commission decision A (1987-5))	E/ECE/1203
	(f) Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission	1/
3.	The work and future activities of the Commission and proposals in regard to all-European co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, energy and other fields	E/ECE/1199
4.	Implications of the provisions of the Concluding Documents of the Madrid Meeting 1980 and the Vienna Meeting 1986 of Representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe for the further work of the Economic Commission for Europe	E/ECE/1204 and Add.1
5.	Review of the economic situation in Europe	
6.	Development of trade and industrial co-operation	E/ECE/1205 ECE/TRADE/167
7.	Follow-up action on relevant Commission decisions:	
	(a) Work of the Sessional Committee (Commission decision A (44))	E/ECE/1206 and Corr.1
	(b) Climate change (Commission decision B (44))	E/ECE/1207
	(c) Statistical activities (Commission decision C (44))	E/ECE/1208
	(d) Co-operation in the field of energy (Commission decision D (44))	E/ECE/1209
	(e) Earthquake prediction (Commission decision E (44))	E/ECE/1210

1/ Documentation for this sub-item:

Committee on Agricultural Problems	ECE/AGRI/107
Chemical Industry Committee	ECE/CHEM/74
Coal Committee	ECE/COAL/117
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/34
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems	ECE/ENVWA/14 E/ECE/1223 and Add.1
Committee on Electric Power	ECE/EP/80
Committee on Gas	ECE/GAS/97
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	ECE/HBP/75
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/78, ECE/TRANS/81 and Add.1
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH/37
Steel Committee	ECE/STEEL/67
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/49
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/167

(f)	The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (Commission decision G (44))	E/ECE/1211
(g)	The Commission's contribution to the follow-up of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (Commission decision H (44))	E/ECE/1212
(h)	Co-operation in the field of environmental protection and water resources (Commission decision I (44))	E/ECE/1213 and Add.1
(i)	Air pollution (Commission decision J (44))	E/ECE/1214
(j)	Evolution in the dimensions of loading units (Commission decision K (44))	E/ECE/1215
(k)	EDIFACT (Commission decision L (44))	E/ECE/1216
(l)	Co-operation in the field of transport (Commission decision M (44))	E/ECE/1217
(m)	Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (Commission decision N (44))	E/ECE/1218
(n)	Standardization and related activities (Commission decision O (44))	E/ECE/1219
(o)	Engineering industries and automation (Commission decision P (44))	E/ECE/1220
(p)	Medium and long term economic prospects and issues: analysis of economic growth conditions (Commission decision Q (44))	E/ECE/1221

8. Programme of work for 1990-1994 E/ECE/1222

9. Other business

10. Election of Officers

11. Annual Report of the Commission

C. Election of Officers

19. The Chairman of the forty-fifth session of the Commission was Mr. Bogumil Sujka (Poland), and the Vice-Chairman was Mr. Olli Adolf Mennander (Finland).

20. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee was Mr. Hans-Christian Kint (Belgium), and the Vice-Chairman was Mr. Alexander N. Sytchev (Byelorussian SSR).

21. Mrs. Edith Reidy (United States of America) and Mr. Vladimir Duris (Czechoslovakia) were appointed Rapporteurs.

22. At its closing meeting the Commission unanimously elected Mr. Olli Adolf Mennander (Finland), Chairman and Mr. Andrei A. Ozadowski (Ukrainian SSR), Vice-Chairman respectively, of the forty-sixth session of the Commission.

23. On the understanding that the Commission would follow established practices and set up a Sessional Committee at its forty-sixth session, it unanimously elected Mr. Alexander Sytchev (Byelorussian SSR), Chairman and Ms. Jutta Wolke (Federal Republic of Germany), Vice-Chairman, of the Sessional Committee for the forty-sixth session.

D. Account of proceedings

The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1989 (agenda item 2(a))

Documentation: E/ECE/1199, 1200, 1201, 1202, and 1204 and Add.1

24. The Commission agreed to consider this item in conjunction with the following items:

The work and future activities of the Commission and proposals in regard to all-European co-operation in the field of protection of the environment, development of transport, energy and other fields (agenda item 3)

and

Implications of the provisions of the Concluding Documents of the Madrid Meeting 1980 and the Vienna Meeting 1986 of Representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe for the further work of the Economic Commission for Europe (agenda item 4)

25. All delegations taking part in the debate underlined the importance of the profound and historic changes which had taken place in the ECE region since the Commission's last session. Commenting on the principal factors which had contributed to these changes, many delegations referred to the continuing momentum for reform, and the significant transformations which were still underway in the countries of central and eastern Europe. These countries had embarked on the road towards pluralistic political systems, parliamentary democracy and market economies. They viewed this time as an unprecedented period in international relations which had altered the political, economic and social landscape of the continent and beyond.

26. A number of central and east European countries described measures and policies which they had elaborated aimed at implementing economic reforms and facilitating their transition to market economies. They expressed their commitment to firmly continue on the path leading to full integration into the European and the world economy. With this goal in mind, they expressed their desire to participate as fully as possible in such institutions as the Council of Europe, EC, EFTA and the OECD as well as the ECE. Those not members of the GATT, the World Bank or the IMF expressed their readiness to join these institutions. These countries expressed their appreciation for the assistance that was being extended to them by other Governments and international institutions. They stated their intention to co-operate actively with all countries on subregional and multilateral levels in fields of common interest.

27. While recognizing that these developments opened up new opportunities and perspectives for enhanced co-operation in the ECE region, several delegations stressed that they also carried uncertainties and challenges. The economic reforms in the countries of central and eastern Europe entailed a complex process which might bring economic and social disruptions. The transition from a command to a market-based economy was uncharted territory for which there were no easy solutions. Two delegations discussed significant policy dilemmas facing the reforming countries, including the questions of gradualist versus comprehensive approaches and the issue of the sequencing of reforms; one of these delegations declared that available evidence tended to support comprehensive approaches and the introduction of the essential minimum of a market-based

approach (liberalized prices and corresponding changes to fiscal and monetary policies) at the beginning of the reform process. Many delegations were of the opinion that it was in the general interest of all countries that change be channelled into steady peaceful evolution. To this effect international assistance for the economies in transition in central and eastern Europe and the USSR was needed more than ever in order to ensure that the reforms would succeed. They reaffirmed their determination to grasp the present historic opportunities and to reach out in support of their fellow Europeans and build together new structures of co-operation.

28. Ireland, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, recalled the Declaration of the European Council at Strasbourg, and reaffirmed in collaboration with its western partners, its support for the economic reforms now in progress. It referred to some of the major actions taken to reinforce the process of political reform and economic liberalization currently underway, notably the creation of a European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the establishment of the European Training Foundation and of vocational exchange programmes.

29. Many delegations welcomed the initiatives of the Group of 24, and work in support of the reforming countries currently underway in various international organizations such as the IMF, the World Bank, the OECD, the GATT and the ECE. Observing that in the security sphere there were no pan-European institutions, one delegation recalled the proposal of the Government of Czechoslovakia for the establishment of a European Security Commission. Another delegation suggested that lessons could usefully be learned from the way the Third World countries proceeded with their adjustment efforts.

30. A few delegations cautioned that assistance should not be diverted from developing countries when forging new economic co-operation arrangements and institutions. Other delegations emphasized their commitment to reduce existing disparities between the industrialized countries and developing countries in order to make the 1990s a decade of genuine development.

31. Ireland informed the Commission of the significant progress made towards the completion of the Single Market of the European Community for 1992. It reiterated the international dimension of the Market, which would constitute a major opportunity for the Community's trading partners. Stressing the importance it attached to its external relations, it drew attention to its interest in developing further a strong and co-operative relationship with the United States, the high priority placed on a new framework for relations with its EFTA neighbours and the great importance it attached to its relations with those non-community member States bordering the Mediterranean. Several other delegations referred to the ongoing negotiations between the EC and EFTA countries to bring about the creation of a European Economic Space.

32. Several delegations commented on the importance of the global trading system and the need to integrate the reforming countries into it. In this context, particular mention was made of the desirability of achieving a successful outcome of the GATT Uruguay Round of Trade Negotiations within the timetable fixed for concluding the negotiations. Support was announced by several delegations for the declared intention of the countries in transition to accede to or obtain observer status in the GATT.

33. Many delegations emphasized the fundamental role of the CSCE process in generating and promoting intensified co-operation in Europe and among the member States of the ECE. They advocated its further development and strengthening as a framework for far-reaching reform, stability and lasting peace in Europe. The hope was voiced that the forthcoming CSCE summit would be an occasion to give the CSCE process new directions. In this context, one delegation recalled the proposal of the Government of Poland for the creation, within the Helsinki process, of a Council of European Co-operation, which would constitute a permanent political organ of the CSCE and perform a consultative and co-ordinating function related to all "baskets" of the CSCE

process. Another delegation commented that while the CSCE acknowledged multilateral efforts, it also stressed unilateral national actions designed to promote increased east-west co-operation, improved business contacts and the flow of economic information.

34. Delegations noted with satisfaction that the changed situation in Europe had been reflected at the recently concluded CSCE Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe held in Bonn (Federal Republic of Germany). It was felt that the Bonn Conference, as well as the CSCE Meeting on the Protection of the Environment held in Sofia (Bulgaria) in 1989, had demonstrated the increasing importance of Basket II in the Helsinki process. Delegations observed that the Document of the Bonn Conference confirmed the intentions of the participating states to shape a new order of peace, stability and prosperity in Europe and was a tangible expression of their commitment to economic co-operation as an essential element in their overall relations. The hope was expressed that the fruitful dialogue and co-operation which had prevailed at the Conference would continue and be intensified. In this context, many delegations welcomed the recognition given in the Bonn document to the important role of existing international economic institutions in promoting economic co-operation in their fields of competence. The invitation extended in the Bonn document to the ECE to develop practical measures in priority areas was deemed opportune. Some delegations felt that both the Bonn Conference and Sofia Meeting had provided new impetus and direction to the Commission's work. With reference to the Concluding Document of the Bonn Conference it was recalled that conversion of military to consumer production might open new business opportunities, and the Commission could practically contribute to this matter. Many delegations underlined the importance of the forthcoming CSCE follow-up meeting on the Mediterranean to be held in Palma de Mallorca (Spain) and looked forward to its positive outcome.

35. There was general recognition that ECE had an important role in fostering regional multilateral co-operation and in contributing to the implementation of the provisions of the Helsinki Final Act and subsequent CSCE Documents. They expressed their readiness to use the existing framework, resources and experience of the ECE for the further promotion of multilateral co-operation in Europe. Many delegations believed that the important changes taking place in the region provided a valuable opportunity to define the future role of the ECE and its potential for new forms of economic and technical co-operation. They were of the view that by virtue of its long experience, recognized expertise and broad membership the Commission was able to address issues from a unique vantage point, and as such it had an important role to play in complementing and contributing to the work on related issues of other institutions. With a view to ensuring that there was no duplication of work with these institutions, the ECE should refashion itself to meet both contemporary demands and competing requirements.

36. Many agreed that in this new situation, the Commission should concentrate on activities in areas of high priority, where practical results had been achieved, notably in the fields of the environment, transport, trade, especially trade facilitation, statistics as well as economic analysis and projections. A number of delegations suggested that the Commission reconsider the effectiveness of its activities in the areas of energy and industry. One delegation noted that chemical industries and engineering and automation, along with other topics that have passed from the arena of intergovernmental discussion to the private sector, were no longer relevant for a revitalized ECE. Other delegations stressed the importance they attached to the Commission's activities in the fields of standardization, energy, especially the relationship between energy and the environment, science and technology, and industry. Several delegations stressed the need to use the existing mechanisms of the ECE to achieve a harmonization of various economic and trade issues on an all-European scale.

37. A number of delegations felt that the Commission should as a guiding principle address the practical questions of integrating the countries in transition in central and eastern Europe as well as the USSR into the world economy and promote the active involvement of representatives of the business and scientific communities in its work. Others stressed that a growing number of

issues required an interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral approach, particularly in the area of the environment. Some pointed to the contribution the Commission could make to the developing countries by making available its considerable experience in matters of economic co-operation. A few delegations stated that in order to render the Commission more pragmatic operational activities would need to be strengthened, expert advisory services made available and technical co-operation be reflected in both intergovernmental and secretariat structures. Two delegations believed that the ECE should concentrate on issues that were inherently multilateral, transboundary or regional by nature.

38. Noting that ECE budget resources were not likely to increase in the coming years, some delegations felt that there was a need to streamline the Commission's work programme and related intergovernmental and secretariat structures. One delegation noted that the ECE could no longer play its past "across the board" role but rather must concentrate on areas where it has "comparative advantages" and seek to develop adequate "critical mass" to address substantive questions. This would also require the transfer of resources from programmes of lower priority to higher priority areas. These delegations, therefore, supported the suggestion to establish an ad hoc Working Group to discuss this and elaborate recommendations for the future role and functions of the Commission. The desire was expressed by some delegations that the recommendations of the ad hoc Working Group be transmitted to the Commission's forty-sixth session or to the resumed forty-fifth session for approval.

39. Particular appreciation was expressed by some delegations for the Economic Survey of Europe, 1989-1990 which was considered to be comprehensive and to contain an excellent analysis of the current changes in the region. Many delegations pointed out that work on economic analysis and forecasts undertaken by the Senior Economic Advisers took on added significance at the present time. In the light of the need for continued discussion of the long-term issues of reform and the related problems of co-operation, the ECE would have a significant role to play within its field of competence. It was envisaged by these delegations that workshops would play an important part in this process. The need for the ECE to co-ordinate its work on economic analysis with other existing international economic institutions was stressed. A few delegations suggested that the Senior Economic Advisers consider the major issues that the economies in transition were encountering and that they actively contribute with their expertise in this area.

40. Referring to the environmental challenges facing the region, delegations observed that the past year had witnessed a growing awareness of the planetary scale of the threat to the environment. The need for international mobilization of forces to protect the environment was now a matter of urgency. Against this background, the work of the Commission in the field of environmental protection assumed even greater importance to which delegations attached the highest priority. Reference was made by some delegations to the significant number of regional and global meetings convened during the past year which confirmed and strengthened the need for comprehensive action on the entire range of environmental problems. Reference was also made to the establishment of the European Environment Agency within the European Community.

41. Delegations expressed appreciation of the Commission's work and the results achieved in the field of environment and water during the past year. In referring to the environmental issues set out in the Vienna Concluding Document, it was stressed that the ECE provided an effective forum for the elaboration of multilateral solutions to many of these problems. The results of the Sofia CSCE Meeting were highly appreciated by delegations, as these provided new impetus to the ECE as a whole and to the activities of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems in particular. The contribution of the Executive Secretary to the meeting was commended. Delegations emphasized the need to proceed to the elaboration within ECE of legal instruments on transboundary impacts of industrial accidents and on transboundary waters. The Executive Secretary was urged to ensure that adequate secretariat resources were made available to achieve these objectives as expeditiously as possible. One delegation mentioned that when

elaborating new instruments, regarding transboundary water courses in particular, it was necessary to take into consideration previous Commission principles and decisions and avoid duplication of work under way in other organizations, particularly the on-going work at the United Nations International Law Commission. The proposal to establish a centre for emergency environmental assistance was recalled by two delegations in connection with the decisions taken by the third session of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems.

42. The progress in implementing the Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution was noted with satisfaction. Particular mention was made of the need to elaborate a draft protocol on volatile organic compounds without delay. Intensified work on the reduction of sulphur emissions by 1993 and abatement strategies was underscored. Several delegations stressed the importance they attached to work on the elaboration of a framework agreement on environmental impact assessment. One delegation expressed appreciation for the report of the Joint Task Force on Environment and Economics as well as the report and the recommendations of the Ad hoc Meeting held on that subject. It was suggested that this work be continued and strengthened as a follow-up to the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED). ECE's work on climate change was also noted. A few delegations expressed interest in the work on the exchange of environmental technologies. One delegation suggested the elaboration of a legal instrument on protection of the waters of the Danube River.

43. Delegations underlined the importance they attached to the forthcoming Regional Conference at the ministerial level to follow-up the Report of the WCED to be held in Bergen (Norway). They welcomed the progress in the preparations for this conference including the strong participation of non-governmental organizations. The hope was expressed that the Conference would identify initiatives which would require follow-up within the framework of the ECE. Delegations looked forward to substantive and action-oriented results of the Conference which should also provide a major regional contribution to the United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development to be convened in 1992.

44. Two delegations reported on their Governments' efforts to mitigate the results of the Chernobyl nuclear power station disaster. They expressed appreciation for international assistance provided to date and appealed for further joint efforts in order to tackle the remaining consequences of the accident. These delegations called upon the Commission and its subsidiary bodies to contribute to this process.

45. Many delegations underlined the importance of transport questions in the context of the economic and social changes occurring in the region. Strong support was expressed for the Commission's practical work in this field. Delegations recorded the importance they attached to work in a large number of priority areas such as goods and passenger transport, vehicle construction, the transport of dangerous goods, road safety and the environment, the UNDP-assisted Trans-European North-South Motorway and Railway projects (TEM, TER), combined transport, short sea crossings and coastal shipping, and a network of European transport infrastructures. Two delegations proposed the establishment of a Trans-European east-west high speed railway. The delegation of Ireland appealed to all ECE member countries to profit from co-operation within the framework of the Commission instead of taking unilateral measures. It further urged the Executive Secretary to ensure that adequate resources were provided for the work on motor vehicle construction and the transport of dangerous goods.

46. Delegations reaffirmed the fundamental importance of the Commission's work on trade promotion and facilitation and industrial co-operation and emphasized the role of the Committee on the Development of Trade in this respect. The progress achieved in the field of international trade facilitation, particularly the United Nations Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transport (UN/EDIFACT) was noted with satisfaction. The recommendation that resources allocated to EDIFACT be strengthened was supported by a number of delegations.

Many delegations expressed keen interest in the Commission's work on the promotion of joint ventures and the development of small- and medium-size enterprises. It was suggested by some delegations that the Committee pay more attention to technical obstacles to trade, the licensing of technology, elimination of remaining obstacles to trade and industrial co-operation.

47. Many delegations emphasized the importance of ECE's work in the field of statistics and stressed its relevance to the fundamental changes taking place in the region. They referred to the need for more attention to be given to the harmonization of statistics and improving the comparability of statistical data at the international level. In this connection reference was made to the forthcoming Seminar on Integrated Statistical Information Systems (ISIS 90). Delegations expressed their confidence that the Conference of European Statisticians would respond effectively to these challenges and would fully co-ordinate its efforts with those of the relevant international institutions.

48. Several delegations voiced their support for the Commission's activities in the field of energy. Particular mention was made of renewable energy sources, energy and environmental issues, the interrelationships between environmental and energy policies, energy and environmental saving technologies, and monitoring of energy prices. Two delegations were of the opinion that work should be intensified in this sector and that the Senior Advisers on Energy should play a leading role in defining priorities. In this respect it was suggested that the Senior Advisers be transformed into a permanent subsidiary body of the Commission and, in co-operation with other bodies, elaborate a long-term strategy for sustainable energy development. One delegation proposed the establishment of a single European energy system.

49. With respect to science and technology, a few delegations believed that ECE's work should be improved in this area. It was suggested that the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology concentrate on the human and ecological aspects of scientific and technological activities, earthquake prediction and the establishment of a network of monitoring stations for natural disaster prediction.

50. Appreciation was also expressed for ECE programmes in the field of agriculture, particularly standardization policies, timber, human settlements and engineering and automation.

51. In the course of the debate many delegations assessed positively the Commission's activities during the past year and commended the Executive Secretary for the original initiatives and dynamic leadership which he had provided during a period of extraordinary economic and political change in the region.

52. At its ninth meeting, the Commission established an open-ended ad hoc working group entrusted with the responsibility of elaborating concrete proposals for, inter alia, setting priorities and identifying low priority areas, both at general and sectoral levels, and accordingly for reviewing the overall structure of the ECE, taking into account the express needs of member countries in areas of work of regional interest and to mutual advantage.

53. On the setting up of the Ad hoc Working Group the Chairman made the following statement:

> "The deliberations at this session have reflected an awareness on the part of all participants that the improved conditions for co-operation in our region should give a new impetus to our work in the ECE.
>
> In expressing our readiness to meet this challenge we are conscious of the need to determine priorities and to decide how best to intensify our co-operation in the light of recent changes in the region and taking account of the invitation addressed by the Bonn Conference to the ECE, that it should in view of its Annual Session develop practical measures in priority areas.

A number of delegations have already syggested what in their view the priorities should be in establishing the ECE work programme for 1990/91. I think there is now sufficient convergence among delegations to reach broad outline agreement on them at this Annual Session, as we are invited to do, to give guidance to the PSBs in setting their own tasks and allow them to proceed in areas clearly defined by this Commission.

Taking account ot the limited resources available for ECE work within the UN regular budget and the need to make most effective use of the available staff and financial resources, we need to concentrate on the strengths of ECE. We also need to avoid any duplication with the work of other international institutions. It is inevitable therefore that the priority areas we establish are going to be limited. I noted that most delegations mentioned the following areas as priorities: environment, transport, trade facilitation as well as statistics and economic analysis.

Building on the convergence of views of delegations, I should like to suggest that, at this stage of the Annual Session, we work hard on agreeing on our priorities. This might best be done in an open-ended ad hoc working group (comprising interested delegations) reporting through the Sessional Committee to the Commission itself with the aim of adopting a decision. This group needs to set to work immediately to make sufficient progress to elaborate concrete proposals for, inter alia, setting priorities and identifying low priority areas, both at general and sectoral levels, and accordingly to review the overall structure of the ECE, taking into account the express needs of member countries in areas of work of regional interest and to mutual advantage. In those sectors not identified as priorities, the ad hoc group should also establish those broad outines of the work of PSBs which are relevant to promoting the process of economic reform and to integrating the economies in transition with the global economy. If there is a need to continue the work after this session, it is understood that a decision for setting up a special working group will be adopted by the Commission at the present session. This special working group will report at the earliest possible date to the resumed forty-fifth annual session of the Commission, which will take the relevant decisions.

The secretariat should provide the working group with the necessary technical and administrative assistance and advice on relevant matters, including financial implications.

I understand that there may be consensus on this approach and I would therefore propose that we proceed accordingly."

54. The Commission agreed with this approach.

55. At the eleventh meeting of the Commission, the Chairman of the Sessional Committee reported on the outcome of the Ad hoc Working Group.

56. At its twelfth meeting, the Commission adopted its resolution 1 (45) on the work of the Commission as a whole and its future activities (for the text see Chapter IV).

57. At its twelfth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision A (45) on the activities of the Economic Commission for Europe (for the text see Chapter IV).

58. In presenting this decision for adoption the Chairman stated his understanding that the Special Working Group would be chaired by the Bureau of the forty-fifth session;

- In the event that neither the Chairman nor the Vice-Chairman of the forty-fifth session were available to chair formal or informal sessions of the Special Working Group, the Chair would be taken by one of the Permanent Representatives of the countries represented in the Bureau of the forty-fifth session;

- the Special Working Group would start its work on 21-22 June and hold a meeting on 13 December, immediately prior to the resumed forty-fifth session on 14 December 1990.

The Commission agreed with this understanding.

Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly (agenda item 2(b))

Documentation: E/ECE/1200

59. Underlining the importance they attached to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in 1992, delegations expressed their appreciation for ECE's participation in the preparations for the Regional Conference at the Ministerial level to follow up the Report of the World Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Bergen (Norway). The Conference would constitute a regional contribution to the 1992 Conference as called for in Assembly resolution 44/28.

60. Emphasizing the importance they attached to the protection of the global climate and recognizing the need for appropriate joint action-oriented programmes in this field, some delegations stressed that ECE should continue to carry out activities in the sectors of environment, energy, industry, transport and agriculture which contributed to the protection of global climate as called for in the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 44/207 on protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind.

61. Some delegations felt that the Commission could be instrumental in the implementation of the relevant provisions of Assembly resolution 44/224 entitled International co-operation in the monitoring, assessment and anticipation of environmental threats and in assistance in cases of environmental emergencies.

62. Stressing the importance they attached to the work carried out in the field of transport of dangerous goods, a number of delegations urged the Executive Secretary to provide adequate staffing resources in this area, in accordance with Council resolution 1989/104.

63. Many delegations commended the Commission's work on the facilitation of the safe transport of dangerous goods, in accordance with the provisions of Assembly resolution 44/226 on traffic and disposal, control and transboundary movements of toxic and dangerous products and wastes.

64. Recalling Council decision 1988/169 on Transport Centres for the Mediterranean Region which decided that United Nations status be conferred on the transport study and training centres for the Mediterranean region, to take effect upon the conclusion of agreements between the United Nations and the respective Governments, one delegation found it difficult to comprehend the delay in the implementation of this decision since the granting of such status would have no financial implications for the United Nations budget. It urged the Executive Secretary to take all necessary measures to conclude the matter.

Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries (agenda item 2(c))

Documentation: E/ECE/1201

65. Many delegations considered that it was essential to reduce the disparities which existed between the highly industrialized countries in the region and those which were developing from the economic point of view. It was stressed by several delegations that the needs of Third World

countries, especially the least-developed among them, should not be overlooked nor should they feel threatened by the process of European integration.

66. It was pointed out that the Commission was not only an instrument for east-west co-operation but should also promote activities of direct benefit to the countries of the region which were developing from the economic point of view. Delegations also expressed the view that a considerable part of the Commission's activities were of relevance to developing countries of other regions, notably its work in the fields of agriculture, statistics, environment, trade, transport and standardization, and science and technology. The operational and technical aspects of ECE's work were emphasized in this connection. Special reference was made to the operational projects executed by ECE with UNDP financial assistance. A number of delegations cited examples of their national efforts to assist developing countries within the region and beyond.

67. Several delegations emphasized the need to develop harmonious programmes of assistance for all countries of the European region. This would truly contribute to the establishment of a common "European Economic Space". A pan-European approach was needed to create an appropriate investment policy to meet the competitive demands of the market economy. Recalling the relevant passages of the Bonn Concluding Document, they stressed that all interested member countries should have equitable access to ECE resources.

Co-operation with other international organizations
(agenda item 2(d))

Documentation: E/ECE/1202

68. Delegations noted with appreciation ECE's continuing co-operation with other international organizations. In view of the changes taking place within the region and the interdependent and global nature of issues facing the international community, many delegations felt that the Commission's relations with other international organizations needed to be intensified and made more complementary. This was particularly relevant for activities in the fields of economic analysis, environment, statistics, trade and transport and technical co-operation. As a consequence, ECE's co-operation with UNDP, UNEP, FAO, GATT, OECD, IMF, IBRD and the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development would need to be intensified in the light of recent developments in the region.

69. Some delegations welcomed the continuing co-operation between ECE and UNDP on operational projects and in particular the work accomplished on the Trans-European Motorway and Trans-European Railway projects. One delegation considered that the proposed project for international transport development in the Mediterranean would play an important role in encouraging other forms of co-operation.

70. ECE's consultations with UNEP in the preparations for the Bergen regional conference on environment and development were commended by some delegations.

71. The representative of the FAO recalled that the co-operation with UN/ECE had a long history and was broader today than ever before, with excellent prospects for further expansion. This was related to two developments of fundamental importance in the European region, namely the far-reaching political and economic changes and the ever-increasing emphasis being placed on environmental protection. He stated that co-operation between FAO and ECE in the fields of food and agriculture, forestry and fisheries could be highly beneficial under newly emerging conditions. At the technical level, both organizations would address relevant environmental problems associated with specific activities such as that on animal wastes.

72. The representative of the CMEA described the reorganization being undertaken in the light of the current changes in the region. He indicated that the new features of the organization would soon emerge, possibly with a new Charter and principles of action and new mechanisms for economic co-operation. Its activities would be based on the market system. ECE would be invited to participate in a series of conferences and meetings. It was hoped that the ECE would be able to make available its expertise in forecasting and analytical work during this period of transition in the CMEA countries.

Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work
(agenda item 2(e))

Documentation: E/ECE/1203

73. This item was considered in conjunction with item 8 - Programme of work for 1990-1994 (see paragraphs 300 to 307 below).

Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission
(agenda item 2(f))

Committee on Agricultural Problems

Documentation: ECE/AGRI/107

74. The activities of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies received general appreciation. Some delegations considered the programme well balanced and reflecting the priorities of their Governments when shaping agricultural policies.

75. One delegation gave its support to the co-operation developed through the Committee's subsidiary bodies on, for example, energy management, environmental protection and policy instruments. Another delegation expressed its interest in the report on "Output and inputs in agriculture of countries in the ECE region in 1980-87" and the Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture and its work on energy saving, automation and environmental aspects. It went on to say that the activities of the other subsidiary bodies were also very valuable, as well as programme elements concerning food and feed proteins, the use of fertilizers, the quality of agricultural and food products, land use, and energy sources.

76. Many delegations expressed satisfaction with the Committee's consideration of expanded east-west co-operation. One delegation observed that new issues of importance had been taken up, such as experience on the market economy, marketing, price and tax policies. The delegation of Poland expressed interest in the experience of western countries and stated that the ECE could play a more important role in the exchange of information.

77. The representative of the European Community expressed interest in the Committee's work, while underlining the need to improve and intensify work in east European countries, especially statistical studies.

78. Some delegations expressed support for the decision taken by the last session of the Committee (as contained in para. 87 of ECE/AGRI/107) concerning the future orientation of its programme of work on agriculture and the environment.

79. Full support was given to the measures taken by the Committee to further strengthen its co-operation with FAO, including the setting up of an ECE/FAO ad hoc Group to review the respective work programmes of the Committee and of the FAO European Commission on Agriculture, so as to improve east-west co-operation and to prevent any overlap of activities. This decision was

endorsed by the seventeenth FAO Regional Conference for Europe which was held in Venice (Italy) from 3 to 7 April 1990. It was stressed that the Committee's methods and programmes should be kept under constant review to ensure there was no duplication and, if necessary, that mergers or abolitions in the work programme could be carried out. A number of delegations expressed the hope that an agreement would be reached between the Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce and the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius on their respective areas of competence.

80. One delegation expressed appreciation for the work on the collection and analysis of statistical data on agricultural markets and trade. The delegation of the German Democratic Republic reported on preparations for the Symposium on the Use of Computers in Agriculture, to be held in Leipzig in October 1990. The delegation of the Byelorussian SSR proposed that the Committee consider contributing to the study of the consequences of nuclear accidents, such as that at Chernobyl, on agricultural production and land recultivation.

Chemical Industry Committee

Documentation: ECE/CHEM/74

81. A number of delegations expressed their appreciation of the activities carried out under the programme of work for 1990-1994. It was pointed out that the chemical industry was one of the growth industries and of importance for the development of nearly all other industries. It relied heavily on international trade and technological co-operation.

82. One delegation observed that, given the industrial evolution of the ECE region, most activities in the field of the industry sector belonged more properly in the private sector. In the light of these developments, the industry sector should not be considered a priority area and ECE should re-examine its activities in various industry areas with a view to utilizing resources more effectively.

83. Many delegations agreed that the fundamental economic, social and political changes taking place in the ECE region would bring new challenges to the Committee. There was a need therefore, to adapt its work to new tasks, in particular to reflect environmental issues, government policies towards the chemical industry and structural changes.

84. The delegation of the Netherlands, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, expressed the opinion that the challenge of sustainable development should be met. The need for a more active involvement of business in the work of the Committee was frequently mentioned; in this context a number of delegations emphasized the need for a reappraisal of the activities of interest to the industry and welcomed the contacts the secretariat had established with the European Council of Chemical Manufacturers' Federations (CEFIC).

85. Several delegations expressed their appreciation of sub-programmes 03.2, 03.3, 03.4 and 03.5, in particular the work in statistics (Annual Review of the Chemical Industry) and in the field of the environment (studies on substitutes for tripolyphosphates in detergents, engineering plastics, the rational use of water and its treatment in the chemical industry, recycling of plastics in ECE member countries). The usefulness of the recent Seminar on the Role of the Chemical Industry in Environmental Protection and the timeliness of the forthcoming Seminar on Joint Ventures in the Chemical Industry (Poland, November 1990) were emphasized. One delegation stressed the need for better up-to-date statistics and for concentration on policy-oriented and long-term topics.

86. The delegation of the USSR, supported by the delegation of Poland, proposed the holding of a high-level meeting on sustainable development in the chemical industry in the ECE region and offered to host this event in Moscow in 1991.

Coal Committee

Documentation: ECE/COAL/119

87. Delegations participating in the discussion expressed general satisfaction with the multilateral co-operation pursued by the Committee, in particular regarding production, mine safety, utilization technologies, international trade and environmental issues. The programme of work was well balanced and responded to the interests of the member countries.

88. The delegation of Belgium, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, stated that, as the production of steam coal in the Community continues to diminish, its demand would be covered by imports from other regions. Structural changes aimed at increasing productivity and enhancing the competitiveness of coal would undoubtedly continue in the future. The Community and its member States were particularly interested in promoting the use of coal in compliance with new environmental regulations.

89. Most speakers, including the Belgian delegation, commended the adoption in 1987 of the New International Codification System of Coals which would fully satisfy the requirements of the international coal market and industry. Some also expressed support for the elaboration of a new ECE classification of coals in close co-operation with ISO, while others thought that this work should fall more properly to the ISO, and expressed the hope that this issue would be thoroughly discussed at the up-coming meeting in Katowice (Poland).

90. Delegations confirmed the usefulness of the studies carried out by the Committee, on world coal trade until the year 2000 and on prospects of the use of coal in the steel industry. They also commended the efforts of the Committee to reduce the response burden of Governments when replying to statistical questionnaires, and to strengthen international co-operation in the field of coal statistics.

91. The delegation of the USSR supported the Consultation on Market Adaptation of Coal Industry Structures and Management in Central and East European Countries to be held in June 1990 in Czechoslovakia. It was stressed that the practice of the ECE to invite scientists and business executives as lecturers to the regular Committee sessions should be encouraged in future.

92. Special interest was expressed by the delegation of the USSR in low-calorie fuel technologies, improved underground coal mining techniques, research and safety issues; and by the delegation of Finland in standardization of the measurement of bulk coal cargoes by draught surveys and in advanced combustion technologies and their impact on the environment.

93. Thanks were expressed to the Governments of the Netherlands, Portugal, Czechoslovakia and Turkey for host facilities offered in 1989/90.

Conference of European Statisticians

Documentation: ECE/CES/34; E/ECE/1208

94. This item was considered together with agenda item 7(c) - Statistical activities. 2/

2/ For the decision taken under this item see para. 246 below.

95. Many delegations drew attention to the importance they attached to the work of the Conference and expressed their satisfaction with the results of its activities in developing and harmonizing statistical concepts, nomenclatures and classifications and enhancing comparability of statistical information at the international level. These activities, viewed against the background of the recent socio-economic changes in the region, loomed even larger in importance.

96. Many speakers expressed their support for the steps taken by the Conference to adjust its programme and methods of work to the changing conditions of regional co-operation. The informal consultative meeting of the Conference on 23 February 1990 was referred to in this respect. At that consultation there was general agreement that the work of the Conference should be closely related to the two major processes taking place in the region namely, transition of the former centrally planned economies of eastern Europe to market economies and intensification of integration in western Europe and the creation of a future European Economic Space.

97. One delegation proposed that ECE elaborate and adopt a European Statistical Convention which would call for unification and integration of statistics in Europe, thus creating a common statistical language.

98. The delegation of Ireland, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, underlined the importance of effective co-ordination of the Conference's work with the work of other fora active in the field of statistics so that each of them could identify its most useful and appropriate place in the changing political environment. Several delegations urged the Conference to ensure that, through discussion with EUROSTAT and the OECD, unnecessary overlap be eliminated. Others expressed the opinion that the Conference should focus on the development of statistical concepts and methods for which there was a demand at an all-European level. In this respect special reference was made to environment statistics and to projects which could help countries in transition from centrally planned to market economies.

99. The emerging focus of the Conference on statistical problems occurring in the transition process met universal approval, and the pilot role of the Conference in adapting its work programme to the new circumstances for co-operation in Europe was appreciated. The Conference was encouraged to proceed with the revision of its work programme at its thirty-eighth plenary session. One delegation stressed the need to sustain the role of the Conference as a centre in elaborating methodological recommendations in order to secure international data comparability.

100. There was general agreement on the importance of the work on comparability of environment statistics. Several delegations commended the progress made in the preparation of classifications and nomenclatures in different areas of environment statistics. The practice of testing newly developed classifications before their final approval was noted positively.

101. In the field of economic statistics, it was suggested that special emphasis be placed on the transition of national accounting schemes from the Material Product System (MPS) to the System of National Accounts (SNA), their closer linkage and the possibility of their parallel utilization. The delegation of Bulgaria stressed the importance of receiving advice from the Conference and the United Nations in general in the country's transition from MPS to SNA. In addition, several delegations underlined the importance they attributed to work on the comparisons of real product and purchasing power parities, foreign trade statistics and statistics of services. One delegation (Czechoslovakia) also stated the importance of statistics on engineering and automation and food and agriculture statistics.

102. The importance of the work on electronic data processing was also stressed, using the example of its application to population and housing censuses, including rational census data processing. The contribution of the Conference to the development of statistics of women was

noted with appreciation. The delegation of Ireland expressed support for the related joint work of ECE and INSTRAW, aimed at preparing a publication of indicators on the situation of women in the region. General appreciation for work on social and demographic statistics was also widely expressed.

103. With respect to data collection, some delegations recommended that more attention be paid to dissemination of collected and processed statistics. To this end, the ECE computerized statistical data base should be further developed.

104. The plans for a joint major conference with the OECD in September 1990 were noted with appreciation. The conference would assemble both users and producers of statistics in order to determine statistical needs and possibilities in transition countries. The organization of a joint conference was seen as an example of successful co-ordination of efforts between two institutions.

105. Many delegations expressed concern about the limited secretariat resources currently available for implementing the extensive programme of work of the Conference. Bearing in mind the growing importance of statistics in the newly developing system of international co-operation, delegations stressed the need to allocate additional human and material resources to the Statistical Division, using to the maximum possible extent the instrument of reallocation of existing resources within the secretariat as a whole in the light of the Commission priorities.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy

Documentation: E/ECE/1209

106. This item was considered together with agenda item 7(d) - Co-operation in the field of energy.

107. Some delegations addressed the importance of energy in the ECE framework, the adequacy of the present intergovernmental structure in the field of energy, the recent and ongoing activities of the Senior Advisers and the frequency of their meetings. Some delegations also reported on recent energy policy decisions in their countries.

108. Some delegations stated that they did not consider the field of energy to be a priority in the framework of ECE. Other delegations did not agree and continued to emphasize energy as a priority area in ECE activities. Several delegations stated that this was not to deny the importance of energy for sustainable economic development or its impact on environment and climate. Energy co-operation in ECE should in the future focus on issues of common interest. Such issues included the interface between environment and energy; energy efficiency, in particular the narrowing of efficiency gaps between ECE countries; the transition of the energy economies of eastern Europe to market economies; improved energy trade and supply conditions in Europe; and an adapted energy data base. The importance of co-operation in the field of new and renewable sources of energy was also mentioned. One delegation suggested that in the future the oil sector should be included in the work of ECE. Another delegation suggested that ECE prepare fuel and energy balances for the region.

109. The delegation of Greece, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, considered it necessary to rationalize the work of the four Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned with energy, in order to improve the concentration of activities on areas of highest common interest, and to enhance resource allocation. The delegations of Canada and Switzerland recommended a merger of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned with energy. One delegation suggested merging the Committees on Gas and Electric Power with the Senior Advisers on Energy, while maintaining the present Coal Committee.

110. Several delegations spoke in favour of annual meetings of the Senior Advisers so as to render their work more responsive to changing developments and needs. A few delegations suggested that the Senior Advisers be granted a co-ordinating role and gradually converted into a permanent working body. One delegation proposed that the mandate of the Senior Advisers be reviewed at the forthcoming seventh session.

111. Delegations expressed satisfaction with progress in the implementation of the 1988-1992 programme of work of the Senior Advisers. Several delegations stressed the value of the study on Interrelationships between Environmental and Energy Policies (ENERGY/AC.10/R.2 and adda). The Symposium on the Optimum Use of Primary Energy Resources in Final Heat Consumption (Prague, Czechoslovakia, 5-9 June 1989, ENERGY/SEM.7/2) was positively assessed, and the Government of Czechoslovakia was thanked for hosting it. Note was taken of the preparations for the Seminar on Solar Power Systems (USSR, April 1991, ENERGY/SEM.10/AC/2) and Energy Efficiency Measures in Industry (Ljubljana, Yugoslavia, 1991, ENERGY/SEM.9/AC/2), and of the ongoing work in the field of renewable sources, energy trade and conservation. Positively assessing the activities of the Senior Advisers, one delegation suggested that they make a substantial contribution to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, to be held in 1992, and consider including in their programme of work energy-related recommendations of the CSCE Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems

Documentation: ECE/ENVWA/14; E/ECE/1213 and Add.1; E/ECE/1223 and Add.1

112. This item was considered together with item 7(h) - Co-operation in the field of environmental protection and water resources. 3/

113. Most delegations noted with satisfaction the finalization of the Terms of Reference of the Senior Advisers and expressed appreciation of the work accomplished and the results achieved in the field of environment and water during the past year, in particular the completion of the Code of Conduct on Accidental Pollution of Transboundary Inland Waters. One delegation expressed its readiness to implement the code of conduct, within its economic capacity and technical capabilities.

114. The outcome of the CSCE Meeting on the Protection of the Environment, (Sofia (Bulgaria), 16 October to 3 November 1989) was appreciated as it provided renewed momentum to the ECE activities in the field of the environment. Most delegations expressed their support for the decisions taken by the Senior Advisers to initiate the elaboration of a framework convention on the protection and use of transboundary watercourses and international lakes, and of a legal instrument on the transboundary impacts of industrial accidents, including the possible creation of a centre for emergency environmental assistance. Some delegations stressed the importance of finalizing those documents before the 1992 CSCE Follow-up Meeting in Helsinki (Finland). One delegation, referring to the mandate of the CSCE Vienna Follow-up Meeting and the principles of the ECE on transboundary watercourses, stated that the elaboration of the convention on transboundary watercourses should refer to protection against pollution only. This delegation also stated that the elaboration of the convention on transboundary watercourses should take into consideration the relevant documents elaborated by other international organizations and the ongoing work at the UN International Law Commission.

3/ For the decision taken under this item see paras. 259-261 below.

115. A number of delegations referred to the possible role of the Senior Advisers, through the Working Party on Water Problems, in promoting co-operation concerning the River Danube. In the view of one delegation, the ECE secretariat could play a co-ordinating role, in particular, by harmonizing the regional framework Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes and the envisaged Danube Convention.

116. Many delegations underlined the importance of finalizing the draft Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context for adoption by the Senior Advisers at their fourth session to be held in Helsinki in spring 1991 at the invitation of the Government of Finland.

117. A number of delegations, referring to the ECE Regional Strategy on Environmental Protection and Rational Use of Natural Resources, pointed to the timeliness of undertaking its revision in the light, inter alia, of the results of the Bergen Conference, as an ECE contribution to the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Many delegations stressed the need to elaborate a comprehensive plan of action for the protection of the environment taking into account the requirements of and the recent developments in the ECE region.

118. While the initiative to establish an environment fund for Europe or other financial mechanisms had been overtaken by recent events, some delegations were of the opinion that ECE could possibly play an important role in a longer-term perspective.

119. A number of delegations welcomed the decision of the Senior Advisers to undertake the elaboration of a regional strategy on integrated waste management. Attention was drawn to activities in the field of low-waste technology, particularly concerning environmentally sound products.

120. Delegations expressed satisfaction with the results achieved so far in the work on environment and economics carried out under the auspices of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems and the Senior Economic Advisers. It was stressed that this work should be continued by a joint Working Party, as proposed by the Senior Advisers.

121. A number of delegations stressed the importance of completing the draft European Red List of Threatened Animals and Plants together with recommendations to ECE Governments on its application, as a contribution to the activities undertaken at the global level to maintain biological diversity. The delegation of Turkey confirmed its willingness to host the ad hoc Meeting on the European Red List in December 1990.

122. Several delegations welcomed the results and ongoing preparations for the seminars under the aegis of the Senior Advisers. Particular reference was made to the seminars on waste-water management and on ecosystems approach to water management.

123. Several delegations voiced their support for the proposal by the delegation of the USSR for a new programme element concerning the improvement of environmental management in changing socio-economic conditions in some ECE member countries.

124. A number of delegations expressed their appreciation for the initiative taken by the Chairman of the Senior Advisers to invite heads of delegations to assess, at an informal consultation in autumn 1990, the implications of the rapid changes under way in Europe on environmental co-operation, and to discuss opportunities for future work in that field.

125. Two delegations (Ukrainian SSR and Byelorussian SSR) expressed their concern about the consequences of the Chernobyl nuclear power station accident for the ecological situation on

their own territories and territories of other European countries. They reported on the activities of their Governments in order to minimize the results of this catastrophe and expressed the appreciation for the international assistance already provided. They also appealed for worldwide co-operation in dealing with the consequences of the Chernobyl accident in the interest of all mankind. In this connection, it was suggested that at the heads of delegation consultations, consideration be given to possible ways the Senior Advisers might assist this effort.

126. At its twelfth meeting, acting on the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision B (45) on the Terms of Reference of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems (for the text see Chapter IV).

127. At its twelfth meeting, acting on the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision C (45) on the Code of Conduct on Accidental Pollution of Transboundary and Inland Waters (for the text see Chapter IV).

Committee on Electric Power

Documentation: ECE/EP/80

128. Some delegations speaking on this item expressed satisfaction with the activities of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies during the period under review and with its programme of work. In general the programme of work was considered to meet the needs and prospects of the region. Other delegations believed that work in this area should be radically restructured and suggested streamlining the ECE work in the energy field by merging it all into one Committee.

129. Many delegations welcomed the organization of a Seminar on the Rational Use of Electricity to be held in Iassi (Romania) in November 1990, and stressed that this was an important contribution to the concerns of sustainable development and environmental protection. They expressed satisfaction at the organization of a one day briefing and consultation on the Romanian electric power situation, prospects and investment needs to take place on the occasion of this Seminar.

130. Several delegations highlighted the topicality of the environmental subjects that should receive continued high attention, in particular perception of environmental impacts of overhead power lines, clean solid fuel fired power stations, climate change, acceptable efficient combustion of low calorific value fuels and pollutant emissions in thermal power stations.

131. A few delegations emphasized the accrued importance of the project on Central European Interconnections as considered in a European context and appreciated the contributions of the international organizations to this project.

132. Some delegations expressed interest in the field of nuclear power and referred in this respect to the importance of the co-operation with IAEA. The recent initiative of collecting information on nuclear power policies and programmes for ECE countries was welcomed.

133. The representative of Greece, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, noted that electricity consumption had risen in the past year despite the relatively warm winter and pointed out that the rate of increase of the share of electricity production of nuclear origin was slowing down. The number of nuclear power stations under construction was decreasing and it was expected that fossil fuel based power stations together with electricity savings could compensate for this in the future. Keen attention was being paid to the effects of discharges from thermal power stations and recently more so with regard to the contribution of these power stations to the "greenhouse effect".

134. A few delegations stressed the value of the Seminar on New Developments in Geothermal Energy which took place in September 1989 in Turkey.

135. Delegations looked forward with interest to the developments related to a Seminar on Electricity Tariffs, Electricity Use and Environmental Protection as well as to a round table on the "Development of Electric Power Systems and Public Acceptance" to take place possibly in 1992 and 1991, respectively.

136. The Committee's programme of work was approved.

Committee on Gas

Documentation: ECE/GAS/97

137. Delegations participating in the discussion expressed their general satisfaction with the work of the Committee and its subsidiary organs and attached special significance to the role of gas in alleviating environmental problems.

138. Delegations identified activities of particular interest, including gas trade, natural gas resources, use of gas as a motor-vehicle fuel, use and distribution, transport and storage, medium- and long-term prospects of gas in the expanding gas markets of the region, particularly for countries seeking energy supply diversification, new technologies and their impact on the use of gas and co-operation in the field of gas research.

139. Several delegations expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the Symposium on Current Developments and Trends in Underground Storage of Natural Gas and LPG, hosted by the Government of France, and future symposia on the Use of Computers for Gas Transmission and Distribution Systems, to be held in co-operation with the International Gas Union (IGU) in Budapest (Hungary) in 1990 and on the Use of Compressed Natural Gas, Liquified Natural Gas and Liquefied Petroleum Gas as Motor-Vehicle Fuels (Kiev, Ukrainian SSR, September 1991).

140. Delegations expressed interest in several on-going activities of the Committee, including measures to study the prospects of a further extension and integration of gas grids in Europe.

141. Some delegations declared that one of the highest priorities should be given to the development of the gas industry in their countries. Therefore the activity of the Committee was of growing importance in the light of the new energy policy those countries should develop.

142. The delegation of Spain, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, attached importance to natural gas as a primary source of energy and to its contribution to improving the environment. It welcomed support by the secretariat to the ESCWA in organizing its Symposium on Future Trends and Prospects of Natural Gas and LPG in the region. It cautioned the Committee to avoid duplication of work with other international organizations, such as the IGU. It welcomed the Committee's growing interest in expanding its co-operation and relationship with interested organizations engaged in gas market developments.

143. With respect to future activities, delegations commented favourably on the integration in the Committee's programme of work of initiatives to study the role of gas and the environment, including climate change. One delegation, joined by others, suggested that while certain activities currently undertaken by this Committee were of value, they could be better handled in a restructured Energy Committee combining the activities of all ECE energy work.

Committee on Housing, Building and Planning

Documentation: ECE/HBP/76

144. Delegations confirmed their interest in the projects carried out by the Committee and its subsidiary bodies. The results of the Committee's work were considered very useful to ECE Governments in their planning and implementation of appropriate policies in the fields of housing, building and planning. Special mention was made of the valuable results achieved by seminars, conferences, technical visits, research colloquia and informal consultations.

145. Delegations stressed the importance of effective policies for the renewal and modernization of human settlements and welcomed the Committee's decision to organize a seminar on that subject in the USSR in May 1991. They also expressed satisfaction with the decision to organize an inter-disciplinary symposium on sustainable tourism development, to be held in Luxembourg in the autumn of 1991.

146. The results of the first session of the Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning and Research, held in Lyon (France) in June 1989, were commended. The Seminar on Effectiveness of Settlement Planning, held in the United Kingdom in October 1989 was also considered successful. Delegations expressed their interest in the research colloquia to be organized in 1990 and 1991, and welcomed the invitation by the delegation of Turkey to host, in 1992, the Seventh ECE Conference on Urban and Regional Research.

147. Delegations expressed their continued interest in the projects related to housing policy. The progress made in the preparations for the Seminar on Distributional Aspects of Housing and Taxation Policies (Sweden, October 1990), was commended. Delegations stressed the usefulness of the work on housing forecasting and programming, and on socio-economic aspects of housing modernization policies. Further work on rent policy and the quality of housing and its environment was considered highly desirable.

148. Delegations stressed the value of the ECE Compendium of Model Provisions for Building Regulations and expressed their satisfaction that the Compendium would be republished in 1990. Delegations also commended the work on the promotion of international trade in construction products. The delegation of Portugal, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, expressed the wish that the study in preparation by the secretariat could reconcile the draft plan of action with the Community's directive. Delegations also commended the studies initiated as a follow-up to the Seminar on Policies for Energy Conservation in Buildings (Finland, June 1988).

149. Delegations reconfirmed their interest in the Meetings of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe and expressed satisfaction with the results of the fourteenth meeting (France, October 1989). The delegation of Turkey confirmed its willingness to host the sixteenth meeting, in 1991, of the Group of Experts.

150. Gratitude was expressed to the Governments of Finland, France and the United Kingdom which had provided host facilities for meetings and study tours. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR confirmed its willingness to host a Study Tour for members of the Committee in September 1990.

151. Delegations welcomed the decision taken by the Committee to explore the possibility of undertaking work on construction in seismic regions. Some delegations felt that such work should be oriented towards appropriate physical planning measures and building regulations. One delegation also suggested that the Committee should study the human settlement aspects of industrial accidents, preferably in co-operation with the other international organizations concerned.

Inland Transport Committee

Documentation: ECE/TRANS/78; ECE/TRANS/81 and Add.1; E/ECE/1215, E/ECE/1217

152. This item was considered together with items 7(j) - Evolution in the dimensions of loading units; and 7(l) - Co-operation in the field of transport. 4/

153. The programme of work of the Committee received general approval and its chairman and the secretariat were congratulated for the work accompliahed

154. Delegations stressed the key role of transport in the light of present economic integration processes and political and economic changes taking place in the east European countries. It was felt that these developments provided a new challenge and opportunity for the creation of a more harmonized and integrated transport system in the region.

155. In this respect several delegations expressed support for the decision of the Committee to convene an informal group of high level experts (26 and 27 April 1990) to consider the implications for its work and organization of the recent economic developments in Europe and of growing concern for the environmental impact of transport.

156. Some delegations underlined the importance of the study on the development of an international rail transport system in Europe (White Paper) and felt that this study should be updated periodically taking full account of the implications for transport of current integration and economic reform processes in Europe. Particular support was expressed by some delegations for the UNDP/ECE Trans-European North-South motorway and railway projects (TEM and TER) which, with the inclusion of an East-West component would contribute to the development of an efficient all-European transport system.

157. Several delegations underlined the importance of the activities of the Committee in the field of road traffic safety and indicated their readiness to contribute actively to the "Road Safety Week in the ECE Region" scheduled from 1 to 7 October 1990. Particular importance was also attached to the early completion of the revision of the Vienna Conventions on Road Traffic and Road Signs and Signals.

158. Many delegations supported the decision of the Committee to convene a special session of the Principal Working Party on Road Transport for the possible revision of the European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR) with a view to arriving at a single social régime in European road haulage.

159. The role of combined transport in diminishing the negative impact of transport on road safety and the environment was stressed and it was noted with satisfaction that a Draft Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC) was expected to be completed in the course of 1990. Recalling decision K (44) some delegations expressed their support for Resolution No.237 on increasing dimensions of loading units in combined transport and felt that the elaboration of cost-benefit studies to analyse their impact should be encouraged.

160. The confirmation by the Government of Yugoslavia of its offer to host an International Symposium on the Promotion and Implementation of the International Convention on the Harmonization of Frontier Controls of Goods (1982), possibly in the second half of 1990, was noted with appreciation.

4/ For the decision taken under item 7(l) see para. 271 below.

161. With regard to co-operation in the Mediterranean area, some delegations recalled ECOSOC resolution 1968/169 granting United Nations status to the Mediterranean Transport Study Centres at Barcelona and Volos as well as to the Transport Training Centre at Istanbul and urged the Executive Secretary to take appropriate action in order to ensure that the legal modalities and required agreements be established for that status to become effective. One delegation indicated the importance of the proposed Mediterranean transport project, to be financed by the UNDP and executed by the ECE, and underlined his country's position that there should be no linkage between the Mediterranean and TER projects.

162. Many delegations underlined the importance which their respective Governments attached to the work in priority areas such as:

- the elaboration and updating of regulations in the field of motor vehicle construction, the transport of dangerous goods and road traffic safety;
- reduction of negative impact of transport on the environment such as pollution, noise;
- East-West traffic flow analyses;

163. Several delegations expressed concern about the staff reduction in the field of vehicle construction by one professional and one general staff post. A member of the secretariat stated that the professional post would be reinstalled in the next budget biennium. Concern was equally expressed about the already longlasting vacancy of three other posts in the Division.

Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology

Documentation: ECE/SC.TECH/37; E/ECE/1210

164. This item was considered together with agenda item 7(e) - Earthquake prediction. 5/

165. Delegations voiced their appreciation of the work of the Senior Advisers. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, said that co-operation in the field of science and technology was important and welcomed the progress achieved during the past year. In its view, the Senior Advisers provided a useful and relevant forum for the exchange of experience in scientific fields of mutual interest. While it expressed appreciation for the seminars and workshops convened in the past, another delegation spoke in favour of reducing the number of seminars and placing more emphasis on the exchange of views during the annual sessions. Two delegations considered that the results achieved by the Senior Advisers had been unsatisfactory and that they had failed to meet the demands of the present situation in Europe. Some other delegations hoped that the fundamental social changes now taking place in the region would lead to a rapid growth of confidence among member countries and would offer new opportunities for the Senior Advisers in promoting co-operation in Europe. In this respect, one delegation proposed that, at their next session, the Senior Advisers should try to establish a perspective for their work for the forthcoming 10 years.

166. Some delegations noted with satisfaction the debate held at the last session on the transition process from an industrial and technological to a scientific and information society.

167. Some delegations supported the work on the review of overall changes in national science and technology policies and spoke in favour of having a more structured format for national reports also covering statistics on science and technology, thus facilitating comparison.

5/ For the decision taken under this item see para. 249 below.

168. Some delegations welcomed the work undertaken in the evaluation of R and D. Several delegations expressed their interest in the Seminar on the Role of Long-Term Forecasting in the Formulation of Science and Technology Policies to be held in Prague (Czechoslovakia) in October 1990.

169. Differing opinions were expressed on the work on technology transfer. While some delegations were in favour of continuing direct involvment in the Manual of Licensing Procedures, others suggested that unproductive elements, such as technology transfer, should be dropped altogether from the work programme and more attention should be paid to problems associated with the adaptation and application of new technologies rather than technology transfer.

170. Many delegations supported the continuation of activities in the field of earthquake prediction. The delegation of the Federal Republic of Germany spoke in favour of convening an ad hoc meeting in 1990 to formulate proposals on the follow-up to the 1988 Lisbon seminar. The delegation of the USSR reconfirmed its readiness to host an international symposium on the subject.

171. Speakers generally supported the establishment of an inventory of existing safety guidelines in biotechnology and welcomed the progress made. In the view of one delegation this activity should aim at the progressive harmonization of national safety regulations. Another delegation was of the opinion that the completion of the inventory was a necessary precondition for further work in this area.

172. General support was expressed for certain other projects, such as the promotion of contacts among young scientists and ways and means to increase the innovative work of small- and medium-sized enterprises. Two delegations expressed their intention to submit revised versions of their former proposals to the next session.

173. One delegation, referring to document E/ECE/1206, considered it unacceptable to decrease the resources allocated to the subprogramme "Science and Technology" for the 1992-1993 biennium.

Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments 6/

Documentation: E/ECE/1221

174. This item was discussed together with item 7(p) - Medium- and long-term economic prospects and issues: analysis of economic growth and conditions.

175. The Senior Economic Advisers had not met since the forty-fourth session of the Commission, and delegations restricted their comments in the main to the programme of work and expressed their views concerning the next session (May 1990) and the future orientations to be given to the work.

176. All delegations participating in the discussion underlined the importance of the work of the Senior Economic Advisers, in particular in the light of the profound changes which had affected, and would continue to affect, the formerly centrally planned economies of the region. The turnround which these countries had experienced created dramatically different conditions for

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6/ See also the account of the discussion under item 5 - Review of the economic situation in Europe (paras. 201 to 211 below) and decision D (45).

economic and social development and called for increased co-operation between the ECE countries. Some delegations suggested that the Senior Economic Advisers must respond with a relevant and focused work programme.

177. Speakers generally emphasized the importance of the exchange of information on medium- and long-term economic development, which would take place during the next session. With respect to the round-table to be organized at that session on economic reforms in eastern Europe and the USSR, some delegations proposed that, since little time would be available for this item, a seminar on macro-economic management might be organized in the near future.

178. Several delegations mentioned the need to up-date the work already undertaken on the OEP to the year 2000, taking into account specifically the transformation of economic conditions consequent upon political developments in eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. Others were against future work in this area. In this connection the need to up-date the macro-economic data base underlying the projections was uniformly stressed, as well as the re-examination of statistical and analytical questions and new methodological approaches connected with the work on the SEM system of models.

179. Several delegations expressed appreciation of the work already done on personal and collective services and welcomed the timely preparation of the seminar on this subject to be hosted by the Netherlands Government in The Hague from 9 to 12 October 1990.

180. Speakers generally welcomed the inclusion of a new programme element on sustainable economic development and the participation of the Senior Economic Advisers in a joint task force with the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems. The results of the two meetings of this task force would be submitted to the Senior Economic Advisers. It was stressed that this type of co-operation between the Senior Economic Advisers and other Principal Subsidiary Bodies should be pursued and intensified where appropriate.

181. With respect to the future orientation of work, several delegations stressed the need to focus less on general economic discussions and more on specific issues, such as concrete measures of co-operation in the sphere of social and unemployment policy, the legal, financial (including the role of foreign capital in restructuring) and other institutional changes needed for a successful transition to a market system, the setting of economic priorities and other issues as listed in chapter 1.2 of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1989-1990. Some delegations expressed the view that it might prove necessary to reconsider the programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ensure that questions of this kind could be accommodated.

182. A few speakers raised the issue of a more active participation of the Senior Economic Advisers in the preparation of the Survey. In this connection the timing of the annual session of the Senior Economic Advisers might need to be reviewed. Some delegations also requested the secretariat to consider how the main conclusions of the Survey could be made more easily accessible - either by radically reducing its length or by the preparation of an executive summary. Many suggestions were offered by delegations on ways to increase the readability of the Survey and its presentation.

Steel Committee

Documentation: ECE/STEEL/67

183. Several delegations underlined the importance of the Committee as a unique forum for multilateral co-operation between steel producers of different countries, for the exchange of information and experience between national industries and for seeking practical solutions, with the assistance of national experts, to a wide variety of issues faced by the steel industries.

In 1989 world steel production had reached record level and steel consumption had increased strongly under the pressure of a growing demand from the main steel consuming sectors of the economy.

184. Delegations reaffirmed their interest in the organization of annual seminars and study tours, they expressed appreciation for the results of the Seminar on the Economic and Technical Aspects of the Modernization of the Steel Industry (Kraków, Poland, May 1989), and the study tour of the Hungarian steel industry (September 1989). Support was expressed for the Seminar "STEEL 90" on the Technical and Economic Aspects of the Manufacture and Application of Coated Steel Products (Genoa, Italy, May 1990) and for the Seminar on Producers' and Users' Metallurgical Requirements in the Welding of Steel Products (Kiev, Ukrainian SSR, 1991). They voiced interest in study tours to be held in the Federal Republic of Germany (1990), in France (1991), in Yugoslavia (1992) and in Bulgaria (1993).

185. Thanks were expressed to the Governments of Poland, Hungary, Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany for host facilities provided during 1989/1990.

186. Attention was drawn to the importance of the annual study of short-term trends and problems in the steel industry and market. Several delegations supported the studies on the importance of the iron and steel industry for the economic activity of ECE member countries and on the recuperation and economic utilization of by-products of the iron and steel industry, as well as the new study on steel product quality and maximum utilization of scrap.

187. Many delegations underlined the importance of steel statistics and the role played by the Committee in defining an internationally accepted approach in this area. Some delegations urged countries which did not provide their steel trade statistics in tonnage terms to start doing so as soon as possible in order to permit all countries to reap the benefits of comparable information.

188. The programme of work for 1990-1994 was judged to be well balanced and to meet the needs of the main steel industries of the world. Some delegations considered that in future the Committee should focus on economic, technical and statistical issues, while others maintained that the programme of work should be well balanced with regard to the economic aspects and greater emphasis should be placed on technical and organizational issues. One delegation suggested that, owing to the significant changes in steel quality, the Committee should study the evolution of steel product quality.

189. Several delegations underlined that future work of the Committee should take into account the recent political and economic changes in some ECE member countries.

190. One delegation proposed the holding of a conference or seminar to discuss the future development of the iron and steel industry, in order to identify ideas and forms through which co-operation could be further intensified.

191. Some delegations stressed the importance of the following topics for the Committee's future work: the environment; mini-mills; resource utilization in the iron and steel industry; long and short term trends and problems in the steel industry, including steel product markets.

Timber Committee

Documentation: ECE/TIM/49

192. Delegations expressed their appreciation of the Committee's activities, including those of its subsidiary bodies, and approved its programme of work.

193. A number of delegations considered the Committee's programme to be balanced and in accordance with the needs of member Governments. The delegation of Spain, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, noted that, in the absence of any change of circumstances, the priorities agreed in 1987 had been maintained in 1989, leading to a balance between the interests of northern and Mediterranean countries. One delegation attached priority to the work on medium- and long-term trends, technology in harvesting, wood transport and the wood-working industries, as well as the 1990 Forest Resource Assessment. Another delegation attached priority to technology and management in forestry and the wood-working industries, as well as the implications of air pollution damage to forests for roundwood supply and markets, problems of conservation of resources and the review of forest products markets at the annual session.

194. Some delegations attached particular importance to the forthcoming study of European timber trends and prospects (ETTS V). One delegation expressed concern about problems encountered with statistical reporting, but hoped that the high quality of the Committee's publications could be maintained. Several delegations welcomed the streamlining of the Committee's system of publications.

195. A number of delegations welcomed the continuing active participation of representatives of trade and industry in the Committee's work, especially its annual sessions. Many of them expressed the hope that participation by forest owners' associations would be expanded.

196. One delegation proposed that the Committee address such serious problems as the consequences of nuclear accidents, as at Chernobyl, for forests. The work, to be carried out in co-operation with other international organizations, could cover systems for harvesting in contaminated conditions, pathology of small radiation doses, decontamination, forest regeneration and training of specialists.

197. A number of delegations regretted the fact that two of the five professional posts in the Timber Section were currently vacant, and hoped it would be possible to fill these posts as soon as possible.

198. Many delegations welcomed the continuing close co-operation between the Committee and other international organizations, notably FAO and ILO, which appeared to prevent unnecessary duplication of work. A number of delegations also mentioned co-operation in the statistical field between the Committee and the European Community. One delegation, supported by another, stressed the need for constant rethinking of methods and programmes to be certain that no duplication was taking place, so that, if necessary, merger or abolition of programmes or programme elements could be carried out. When the work programme was considered, account should be taken, not only of developments in the region but also of activities in other international organizations, particularly the FAO, and the widening of its membership to include all east European countries and the Soviet Union.

199. Thanks were expressed to the Governments of Belgium, Finland, Italy, Spain, Turkey and the USSR for host facilities provided during 1989.

Committee on the Development of Trade

200. This item was considered in conjunction with item 6 - Development of trade and industrial co-operation (see paragraphs 212 to 230 below).

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Review of the economic situation in Europe
(agenda item 5)

201. For discussion of this item the Commission had before it, as background material, the pre-publication text of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1989-1990 and the Economic Bulletin of Europe, Vol.41 (Trade(XXXVIII)/1).

202. In their statements delegations reported on economic performance in their countries in 1989 and the prospects for 1990. They also discussed policy problems pertaining to the region as a whole and to developing countries.

203. In general, delegations from market economy countries agreed with the assessment of economic developments and prospects in western Europe and North America contained in the Survey. It was pointed out that in western Europe economic growth had become increasingly investment-led, although in 1989 exports remained a major driving force, as had been the case in 1986. Business confidence was bolstered by strong increases in profitability and continuing favourable sales prospects. With capacity utilization rates at very high levels and cost pressures mounting, it was important for economic policy to contain any inflationary risks by means of tight monetary policies. The short-term outlook was for a continuation of the current upswing, though at a somewhat slower pace. Against this overall positive background one delegation recalled the imbalances that had persisted in the international economy and pointed to the need for corresponding adjustment policies in the countries concerned. It was also recalled that the overall economic situation in the developing countries remained a matter of great concern. In this connection it was pointed out by one delegation that western financial aid to the central and east European countries in transition should not be to the detriment of financial support to developing countries.

204. In assessing economic developments in the countries of central and eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, most delegations noted weakening economic performance in 1989 which was reflected in a decelerating pace of economic growth or, in several countries, in a fall of output. Domestic and external imbalances had worsened. Some delegations referred to specific problems and factors linked with rapid political and economic changes now under way in these countries. Several speakers pointed to difficulties of the transformation under way from centrally planned to market economies. Since these were likely to exacerbate economic problems in the short run, the short-term prospects were found to be bleak. Some delegations noted the growing inter-dependence of European economies and the importance of economic and technological co-operation, in particular regarding environmental issues. The process of restructuring east European economies would call for new forms of co-operation between east and west. Advisory services could be provided in this respect by the ECE.

205. The delegations of the Ukrainian SSR and Byelorussian SSR reported that the ecological situation had become worse in their territory due to the negative impact of the Chernobyl accident. In this connection they expressed the hope that international organizations, Governments and other institutions would provide assistance in order to eliminate those negative consequences.

206. Several delegations commented upon the recent development of their east-west trade. Overall, the volume of eastern exports to the west slowed again in 1989, expanding at some 3% in volume in the first nine months, while the growth of eastern imports from the west accelerated to 13%. A number of these delegations remarked that their east-west trade continued to account for only a small share of their total trade, but that the potential for expanding these interchanges was considerable.

207. Many delegations expressed their appreciation for the "special features" included in the latest Survey - sections on economic reforms and integration, services, the evaluation of the western assistance programme, and in particular the framework for western assistance to the eastern countries' transition to market economies. Delegations also welcomed the examination of the post-war experience of western Europe, especially of the various aspects of the Marshall Plan, and their relevance for the eastern countries. Most of them found that there were considerable differences between the two historical situations and that an international programme of support for reconstruction of central, eastern Europe and the Soviet Union should be oriented primarily to technical assistance, foreign support for investment in infrastructure and environment protection. The re-establishment of institutions required for the efficient functioning of market economies was also found to be crucial for the effectiveness of such support and the overall success of economic reforms. It was pointed out that the description of a possible framework for western support contained in the Survey could provide a very useful contribution when discussing the transition problems of the erstwhile centrally planned economies.

208. A number of delegations mentioned the proposal in the Survey to consider the creation of a Central European Payments Union, which could facilitate the eastern countries' transition to a system of free trade and multilateral settlements, as relevant and worthy of consideration in more detail, given its wide-ranging implications. One delegation remarked, however, that such an arrangement might hinder the process of closer integration of these countries into the international division of labour.

209. Some delegations asked the secretariat to continue analysing the transformation process in the eastern economies, focusing inter alia on the determinants of foreign direct investment, the role of small and medium-sized enterprises and the state sector. Other delegations stressed the importance of studying the ongoing integration processes, which should however be viewed in the wider context of creating a common European economic space, including the eastern countries. Several delegations expressed the opinion that the Senior Economic Advisers should constitute a forum where experts would meet to discuss the transition problems of the eastern economies and the repercussions of these changes on the overall growth performance of European economies.

210. Many delegations expressed the view that the Survey was a valuable document providing a comprehensive and balanced view of economic developments and issues in the ECE region. Some delegations stated that the combination of short-term analysis and detailed studies dealing with problems of a longer-term nature was a particularly interesting feature. Several delegations requested that more in-depth analysis of the changes occurring in the region be provided by the secretariat and asked that appropriate resources be made available to this end.

211. A draft decision on the work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe, submitted by the European Community and its member States and Hungary, and co-sponsored by Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Switzerland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United States of America, and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its twelfth meeting (for the text see Chapter IV, decision D (45)).

Development of trade and industrial co-operation
(agenda item 6)

Documentation: E/ECE/1205; ECE/TRADE/167

212. The Chairman of the Committee on the Development of Trade reviewed developments in international and interregional trade and payments, and the progress of international negotiations in other fora since the last session of the Commission. Looking towards the future, he observed that, in radically changing circumstances, new possibilities were emerging and the potential

development of trade and industrial co-operation was increasing considerably. He hoped that at its next session the Committee would undertake a thorough review of its programme of work: new opportunities called for fresh thinking, more ambitious goals and more effective methods of work.

213. All speakers on this item expressed appreciation of the work of the Committee aimed at improving the conditions for trade and industrial co-operation in the region.

214. Many delegations described recent developments in their countries' trade with other countries, in particular with those from other parts of the ECE region. Several delegations outlined the trade and economic reforms under way in their countries. Recognizing the importance of market mechanisms for achieving economic development, the aims of these reforms included the desire to integrate the economies concerned more closely into the international division of labour and to facilitate, inter alia, business contacts and direct foreign investment. Other aims included establishment of different forms of ownership, decentralization of decision-making, liberalization of pricing, fiscal and banking reforms, the organization of labour and capital markets and progress towards external convertibility of national currencies. In this context one delegation suggested that the methods of transforming the ownership structure in countries in the process of establishing a market economy would be a suitable topic for secretariat study.

215. Other delegations reaffirmed their readiness to contribute to the economic and social restructuring of partner countries. They stressed, however, that incentives for increased trade and industrial co-operation would have to be mutual, and some of these delegations called attention to the practical difficulties still experienced by their businessmen in engaging in trade and investment activities such as joint ventures in eastern countries.

216. Reference was made to recently concluded long-term agreements which had considerably improved the prospects for further developing trade and industrial co-operation between ECE member countries. Even if the approach to economic principles in Europe had changed, as the recently concluded Bonn CSCE Conference had shown, the effects of these changes on trade between ECE member countries would need some time to materialize. What the ECE could and should do was to improve the framework of economic co-operation between member countries with a view to establishing realistic guidelines to facilitate work between businesses. It would then be up to the business community and the economic operators in the countries concerned to make the best use of new opportunities.

217. The process of negotiation in the GATT Uruguay Round was recalled by some delegations who stressed the importance of maintaining the momentum of these negotiations in the final phase leading up to the December 1990 Brussels Ministerial Meeting.

218. A second multilateral process with far-reaching implications for international trade, namely the CSCE and, in particular, the Bonn Conference on Economic Co-operation, was cited by many delegations, one of whom viewed the final document of that Conference as a milestone in the CSCE process, signalling a growing willingness to discuss the practical impediments to effective east-west economic interaction. The contributions of the Executive Secretary to the Bonn Conference were considered by the delegation of the European Community to contain a number of stimulating ideas meriting further study.

219. Many delegations gave a positive appraisal of the outcome of the thirty-eighth session of the Committee on the Development of Trade and of the various meetings held under the Committee's auspices in 1989. Support was also expressed for the decision to hold a meeting of experts on east-west compensation trade in 1990 and to the proposal to hold a joint meeting with the Conference of European Statisticians on disparities of foreign trade statistics and methods of improving their comparability.

220. The development of market information, marketing techniques and improved business contacts was considered to be important. The seminar, to be held simultaneously with the Lisbon Trade Fair in Portugal in May 1991, on the theme of the marketing of selected consumer goods and of equipment for the production of such goods was considered to be most opportune and was expected to provide businessmen and government officials with an opportunity to establish new business contacts and to exchange views on new developments in east-west trade relations in the light of the economic reforms in some ECE member countries.

221. The work of the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures and the Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry was also positively assessed. (For discussion on UN/EDIFACT see paras. 266 to 269). It was stated that the topic of the new Guide "Legal aspects of financing new and developing forms of east-west trade" could prove very useful to the increasing number of business people wishing to take advantage of new opportunities for trade.

222. There was a common appreciation of the work of the Committee on joint ventures which should be continued and in this respect the Committee's proposal for the preparation of a seminar on the management of joint ventures and industrial co-operation projects, and the decision taken by the Committee that the secretariat should prepare a study for its thirty-ninth session dealing with conditions for promoting direct foreign investment, including special economic zones, joint ventures and other forms of industrial co-operation in the ECE region, were welcomed.

223. In order to assist the harmonious development of all European States, the delegation of Romania stated that it stood for maintaining and developing the Committee's programme of work as regards the trade problems of the member countries of the ECE which were developing from the economic point of view. The same delegation expressed its heartfelt thanks to all countries which had rendered assistance since the first days of the 1989 revolution. The delegations of Poland and Hungary also expressed appreciation of the bilateral and multilateral support and assistance they were receiving during the process of accelerated reforms.

224. One delegation expressed its keen interest in the further studies of services and in the expansion of the data bases on services and industrial co-operation. Attention should be given to the possible publication of a statistical bulletin on foreign investment in eastern Europe. A study of the integration processes under way in the ECE region would also be worthwhile.

225. Attention was drawn to the fact that the work on promotion of co-operation among small- and medium-size enterprises was of interest to all countries and in this respect there was a proposal to include this subject in the Committee's programme of work.

226. Reference was made to some remaining export restrictions. In reply to these comments, one delegation stated that the rules concerned were under intense scrutiny and that the likely result was that only exports of strategic goods would continue to be restricted.

227. The representative of the European Community stated that there could be no doubts about the Community's willingness to make a full contribution to a further improvement in the development of trade and industrial co-operation with the countries of central and eastern Europe. The agreements recently concluded with many of these countries offered significant concessions on trade access and provided for major improvements in business facilities and for co-operation in a wide range of areas, including energy, environment, financial services, vocational training and statistics. The Commission of the European Communities had also undertaken to co-ordinate western assistance to the process of economic, political and structural reform under way in some countries of central and eastern Europe. In addition to this co-ordinating role the Community's own contribution to the initial phase of the assistance effort amounted to 300 million ECU and consideration was currently being given to the additional sums necessary to continue and develop

the assistance programme through its extension to other eligible countries. Important initiatives in the programme included the creation of a European Training Foundation and the setting up of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

228. The Single Market programme continued to be a central element of the European Community's economic integration. Such a single market would in the view of the delegation of the European Community, open up a wave of new growth both within the west European economy and throughout the ECE region. Its policy would continue to be based on the open multilateral trade system. The Community had devoted considerable efforts to providing information on the progress and implications of this programme and was willing to continue to do so.

229. The Community continued to find the Committee on the Development of Trade a useful and appropriate place to analyse and discuss the specific characteristics of the development of east-west trade and expected the work of the Committee to increase in value in the future. It was important at this time to avoid any duplication of effort and waste of resources. ECE activities should be fully co-ordinated with those of other international organizations.

230. The rapid changes taking place in the region could give rise to practical problems in the fields of trade and industrial co-operation. The Community therefore urged its neighbours in central and eastern Europe to ensure that complete and up-to-date information on their new economic regimes was freely and openly available to economic operators in good time.

Work of the Sessional Committee
(agenda item 7(a))

Documentation: E/ECE/1206 and Corr.1

231. In introducing this item, the Executive Secretary stated that the draft programme budget for 1992-1993 submitted to the Commission for consideration was still at a very preliminary stage, as the internal process of preparation of the programme budget had not yet been initiated by the Secretary General of the United Nations. Instructions to programme managers in the United Nations would be issued by the Secretary General in July 1990, and would have to be adjusted in the light of the consideration by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session of the proposed outline of the programme budget for the same biennium 1992-1993.

232. Programme managers would be required to submit their budget proposals to the Secretary General before the end of 1990. The programme budget of the Secretary General would then be considered by the relevant United Nations Committees in 1991 and by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session. Guidance and recommendations which the Commission may wish to make on the preliminary proposals would be taken into account by the Executive Secretary when he presented to the Secretary General the proposals for the 1992-1993 programme budget.

233. The Executive Secretary pointed out that the proposals made in the preliminary programme budget reflected emphasis on activities which would more positively respond to the fundamental changes taking place in Europe and to the recommendations set out in the document of the Bonn Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe.

234. In this connection, many delegations noted that the present session of the Commission had the major task of setting priorities amongst and within programmes in order to allow an appropriate allocation of resources. It had to identify activities of lowest priority that would be curtailed or terminated if anticipated resources were not available or if activities of higher priority were to be commenced or expanded.

235. Some delegations expressed the view that, although preliminary, the draft programme budget lacked certain fundamental information. In particular, the programme budget information provided did not provide data on man/months allocated to programmes, nor did it indicate the total financial requirements for the biennium. In order to allow a priority setting of programme activities and a meaningful discussion of the issue, they requested the secretariat to make available to them relevant statistical tables which would also reflect the situation for previous biennia.

236. The requested tables which were subsequently provided by the secretariat gave delegations a further opportunity to comment on them.

237. The delegation of Ireland, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, singled out that, in order to make its work more efficient, the Commission should concentrate on activities of a priority nature yielding practical results. No area of action should be immune from re-evaluation, and all programme elements which were dormant or for which there was inadequate member State participation should be eliminated. In this regard, decision A (1987-S) should be fully implemented.

238. The same delegation mentioned the following areas as of priority interest to it: environment, statistics, transport and trade facilitation. Adequate resources, from existing resources, should be allocated to them. This delegation also expressed appreciation of the secretariat research work in economic analysis.

239. With regard to interdisciplinary activities, the delegation of Ireland, while appreciating the implementation of this procedure in the framework of the relevant decision on the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, was of the opinion that the outcome of this approach should be evaluated with a view to identifying other projects which may qualify for this technique. In that context, the concept of team structures within the ECE secretariat would have a bearing. The concept would need to be carefully considered.

240. The same delegation invited the secretariat to provide information about any items in the work programme which were of a routine nature, or which no longer involved substantial activity. The secretariat was also requested to indicate activities or sectors in which the ECE had comparative advantage and to evaluate its technical capacity with a view to responding to the emerging needs in areas of increased importance and those stemming from recent developments in the region.

241. One delegation stressed its priorities as: environment, transport, trade, industrial and technological co-operation, energy, statistics and standardization in close connectin with the process of economic reforms in central and eastern Europe.

242. Some delegations stated that the late reception of the documentation had caused serious difficulties in preparing their contribution to the session. One delegation requested the secretariat to provide a table showing the process of preparation and distribution of the documentation. On this occasion, the Executive Secretary described the exceptional conditions under which the current session had been prepared: coincidence of a number of major conferences and events in the region which needed to be reflected in the documentation; fundamental changes occurring in the region to which various Principal Subsidiary Bodies had to react; and the heavy burden on the secretariat of preparing contributions to a number of regional conferences during the height of the period when the Commission documentation was being finalized.

Climate change
(agenda item 7(b))

Documentation: E/ECE/1207

243. One delegation approved of document E/ECE/1207 and expressed its appreciation at the steps taken within ECE to examine the impact of economic development and energy use on the climate. It offered to make available the papers considered at a recent White House conference on climate change.

244. At its twelfth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision E (45) on climate change (for the text see Chapter IV).

Statistical activities
(agenda item 7(c))

245. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(f) - Conference of European Statisticians (see paragraphs 94 to 105 above).

246. A draft decision on statistical activities, submitted by Hungary and Switzerland and co-sponsored by Austria, Canada, Finland, Norway, Romania, Sweden and the United States of America, was adopted by the Commission at its twelfth meeting (for the text see Chapter IV, decision F (45)).

Co-operation in the field of energy
(agenda item 7(d)

247. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(f) - Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy (see paragraphs 106 to 111 above).

Earthquake prediction
(agenda item 7(e))

248. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(f) - Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (see paragraphs 164 to 173 above).

249. At its twelfth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision G (45) on ECE's contribution to the implementation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, including Earthquake Prediction (for the text see Chapter IV).

The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development
(agenda item 7(f))

Documentation: E/ECE/1211

250. A number of delegations noted with satisfaction the progress made in developing inter-disciplinary activities within ECE's programme of work and in promoting sustainable development. In this context, the results of the work of the Joint Task Force on Environment and Economics under the auspices of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems and the Senior Economic Advisers were commended, as were the results of the Ad hoc Meeting on Environment and Economics held in January 1990. Delegations felt that such cross-sectoral approaches should be pursued and strengthened, in order, inter alia, to prepare for the follow-up to the Bergen Conference.

251. While reiterating their commitment to the conclusions and goals set out in the report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, several delegations stressed their determination to further substantiate and define the concept of sustainable development with a view to facilitating the integration of that concept into national policies and regional co-operation. The delegation of Denmark, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, felt that integrating environmental concerns into the economic and social development process was a challenge for all countries. This might present particular difficulties for countries confronted with technical and economic problems, for which additional solidarity and assistance would be required.

252. A number of delegations welcomed the substantial progress made in the preparations for the Bergen Conference, particularly on the draft Ministerial Declaration and the Agenda for Action. The results of the four workshops organized by the Governments of the Federal Republic of Germany, Poland, the United Kingdom and the United States were also praised. The delegation of Norway mentioned that the results of the Bergen Conference should support member countries in achieving sustainable development, promote intersectoral activities at the regional level and provide encouraging examples for other regions.

253. A number of delegations considered that work already undertaken within the ECE and the Bergen Conference provided an important input to the preparatory process for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in Brazil in 1992.

254. A number of delegations proposed the convening of a high-level meeting of ECE countries to evaluate the implementation of the results of the Bergen Conference, and to consider the implications for the ECE region of the outcome of the 1992 Conference.

255. At its twelfth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision H (45) on Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development (for the text see Chapter IV).

The Commission's contribution to the follow-up of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women (agenda item 7(g))

Documentation: E/ECE/1212

256. One delegation noted that following the Nairobi World Conference substantial progress had been made in promoting the objectives of the Conference. In that context, the delegation referred to recent measures adopted by the Supreme Soviet of the USSR to improve the status of women and to strengthen the family. Also, the delegation praised the work of the United Nations system relating to advancement of women and called for continued work in this area on the part of the secretariat.

257. The delegation of Portugal, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, referred to its statement under agenda item 2(f) (Conference of European Statisticians) which was relevant also to this subject.

Co-operation in the field of environmental protection and water resources (agenda item 7(h))

258. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(f) - Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems (see paragraphs 112 to 127 above).

259. At its twelfth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision I (45) on co-operation in the field of environmental protection and water resources and in the field of long-range transboundary air pollution (for the text see Chapter IV).

260. After the adoption of decision I (45) the delegation of Turkey stated it had joined the consensus with certain understandings regarding paragraph 9 and operative paragraph 2 of that decision. In particular, when drawing up elements for a draft framework Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes, these elements should be confined to the enhancement of the quality of the waterbodies and be pollution related only. The framework Convention should be without prejudice to any other pertinent international existing or future legally-binding instruments and should take due account of applicable national legislation. This delegation expressed its understanding that the outcome of the Sofia 1989 meeting on the Protection of the Environment had no other objective than the strengthening of international co-operation among the participating States in the field of the protection of the environment. Therefore, it considered that any work to be undertaken in this regard with a different interpretation, particularly regarding the usage of transboundary watercourses, would be considered by it as a breach of the provisions of the CSCE Vienna Concluding Document as well as of the mandate of the ECE.

261. The delegation of Ireland, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, stated that it did not share the understandings expressed by the former speaker. It did not consider the decision to be a breach of the provisions of the CSCE Vienna Concluding Document, nor of the mandate of the ECE. The delegation of Finland, speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, and Austria supported the statement of the Irish delegation.

Air pollution
(agenda item 7(i))

Documentation: E/ECE/1214

262. Strong support was expressed for the intensive ongoing work in implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution, carried out under the auspices of the Executive Body for the Convention. Several delegations cited the Convention and its protocols as a model for coping with climate change. One delegation emphasized the need to make further use of the Convention for environmental protection in the Arctic.

263. Delegations welcomed the progress made towards preparation of a new protocol on volatile organic compounds. Support was also voiced for the activities of the Working Group on Abatement Strategies towards a common understanding on critical loads, and towards the elaboration of appropriate proposals for a new or revised protocol on sulphur emissions after 1993.

264. One delegation stressed the role of technology exchange for air pollution abatement in the context of current multilateral and bilateral co-operation. The delegation noted with satisfaction that the Task Force on Exchange of Technology, established by the Executive Body, had begun its work, and suggested a possible revision of its mandate in the light of the Sofia Protocol on Nitrogen Oxides.

Evolution in the dimensions of loading units
(agenda item 7(j))

265. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(f) - Inland Transport Committee (see paragraphs 152 to 163 above).

EDIFACT
(agenda item 7(k))

Documentation: E/ECE/1216

266. Several delegations commented on the international and national development of facilitation standards and of the importance of their implementation for the business community and world trade. Satisfaction was expressed with the results achieved by the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures in this sphere. The need to allocate additional resources to this activity in order to permit the secretariat to assure the development and maintenance of UN/EDIFACT was stressed and general support was expressed for the recommendations to that effect made by the Working Party at its thirty-first session. It was considered that the additional resource requirements described in document TRADE/WP.4/R.659 constituted the minimum necessary for the satisfactory further development of this highly appreciated activity.

267. Some delegations reported on administrative and institutional measures being taken in their respective countries to set up an appropriate institutional framework for the introduction and implementation of UN/EDIFACT. They stated that any assistance to them from the secretariat and member countries which already had successful experience in this field would be welcome.

268. A number of delegations referred to the draft proposal for an Interregional Co-operation project for the facilitation of international trade prepared by the secretariats of the five regional commissions jointly with UNCTAD as called for by Council resolution 1989/118, and expressed their support for this initiative.

269. A draft decision on EDIFACT, submitted by Poland and the United States of America and co-sponsored by Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Finland, Hungary, Switzerland and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its twelfth meeting (for the text see Chapter IV, decision J (45)).

Co-operation in the field of transport
(agenda item 7(l))

270. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(f) - Inland Transport Committee (see paragraphs 152 to 163 above).

271. At its twelfth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision K (45) on co-operation in the field of transport (for the text see Chapter IV).

Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe
(agenda item 7(m))

Documentation: E/ECE/1218

272. Delegations speaking on this item underlined the continuing importance they attached to the strengthening and enhancement of security and economic co-operation in the Mediterranean region in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE and the subsequent CSCE Concluding Documents. Delegations pointed out that in view of the recent developments in the ECE region, new avenues for Mediterranean co-operation should be explored with a view to promoting equitable all-European economic and social development.

273. Strong support was expressed for the CSCE follow-up meeting on the Mediterranean, to be held in Palma de Mallorca (Spain). In that context delegations looked forward to the establishment of guidelines for new areas of work within the framework of the ECE. They stressed the

significance of the Commission's contribution to the Palma Meeting and its follow-up which they believed would provide an opportunity for dialogue and co-operation with other countries of the Mediterranean.

274. Appreciation was expressed for the ECE projects contained in document E/ECE/1218. It was considered that these activities should be further expanded and followed up more intensively. Particular importance was attached to ECE's activities in the fields of transport, environment, trade, housing, building and planning, timber, statistics, renewable energy sources and marine industrial technology. One delegation expressed its readiness to establish a future Mediterranean organization for renewable energy sources in its country. The Executive Secretary was urged to identify specific areas of possible co-operation in the field of protection of the environment in the Mediterranean, taking all necessary measures to avoid duplication of work with other international organizations as called for in decision N (44). In the field of housing, building and planning the work of the Group of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe was singled out. With respect to trade, one delegation expressed the belief that there was room for improvement in this sector and called for the elaboration of tangible activities on trade issues specific to ECE member countries which are developing from the economic point of view, with emphasis on trade issues of direct interest to countries of the Mediterranean region.

275. Delegations expressed their satisfaction with the work of the transport training and study centres for the Mediterranean and recalled the provisions of Council decision 1988/169 on this subject. The hope was expressed that the question of their status would soon be settled. In this context, one delegation called upon the Executive Secretary to take all necessary measures to conclude the matter as soon as possible. This same delegation, drawing attention to the importance of the UNDP financed ECE project on Transport Development in the Mediterranean, expressed its confidence that the project would be of major significance for fostering extended Mediterranean transport co-operation and underlined this country's position that there should be no linkage between the Mediterranean and TER projects.

276. Delegations reiterated the importance which they attached to inter-regional co-operation with Mediterranean countries which were not members of the ECE, as well as with other regional commissions and international organizations. An appeal was made by one delegation for further technical and financial assistance for projects of benefit to countries of the Mediterranean region.

277. A draft decision on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, submitted by France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain, Turkey and Yugoslavia, was adopted by the Commission at its twelfth meeting (for the text see Chapter IV, decision L (45)).

Standardization and related activities
(agenda item 7(n))

Documentation: E/ECE/1219 and STAND/GE.1/31

278. All delegations participating in the discussion expressed their continued support for the work in the field of standardization and related activities and their satisfaction with the decisions taken by the Meeting of Experts on Standardization Policies held in 1989.

279. The representative of the European Community stressed that ongoing work regarding recognition of test results should be considered as being of great importance since they completed the groundwork on which international and regional agreements could be based. It was important that the ECE secretariat maintain close and efficient co-ordination with the different subsidiary organs of the Commission in order to apply the results of this work in specific

sectoral areas. The secretariat should also continue to ensure efficient co-ordination with other international fora concerned such as ISO, IEC and ILAC.

280. Many delegations expressed interest in the Seminar on International Standards for Environmental Protection to be held during the eleventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies. By arranging such a seminar the Government Officials had shown their concern for this worldwide problem and their willingness to contribute to its solution.

281. The delegation of the USSR recalled the suggestion it had made at the Meeting of Experts on Standardization Policies that a Recommendation to ECE Governments on the further development of co-operation in the field of standardization and related activities should be worked out in the light of the relevant provisions of the Concluding Document of the Vienna Follow-up Meeting of the CSCE. It noted that the interest shown by the ECE in this area was in full conformity with the ideas of the CSCE.

282. Other delegations referred to the economic restructuring under way in their countries and suggested that the ECE was well suited to provide a channel for technical assistance. They referred in particular to the role of conformity assessment, quality control and laboratory accreditation in market economies as being different from that formerly practised in planned economies and stated their readiness to upgrade their production to international standards and to establish national laboratory accreditation systems.

283. At its twelfth meeting, acting on the recommendation of the Sessional Committee, the Commission adopted its decision M (45) on standardization and related activities (for the text see Chapter IV).

Engineering industries and automation
(agenda item 7(o))

Documentation: ECE/ENG.AUT/42; E/ECE/1220

284. The delegation of Italy, speaking also on behalf of the European Community and its member States, as well as some other delegations, expressed their appreciation of the activities of the Working Party, and in particular the fulfilment of its programme of work, but it was suggested that, in its future work programme, the Working Party should reflect new challenges and opportunities arising from the ongoing political, economic and social changes in the region.

285. Several delegations considered it important that the current and future activities of the Working Party should contribute to the priority areas of work of the Commission. Several delegations underlined that improved co-operation in the field of engineering industries and automation might help the countries of central and eastern Europe to accelerate the implementation of economic reforms and the modernization of their industries.

286. Several delegations supported further work on engineering and automation statistics, including the application of new classification and data collection systems, allowing for comprehensive comparisons of national developments in the field and providing an analytical basis for improved production planning and overall orientation of international trade in the sector. Interest was reaffirmed in the Annual Review and long-term analysis of the general trends within the scope of sub-programme 01(a).1.

287. Several delegations expressed support for the activities of the Working Party in the field of environmental protection. In this connection several delegations expressed support for the

Seminar on Air Pollution Control in Engineering Industries, to be hosted by the Government of Switzerland in November 1990.

288. It was considered important that the ongoing as well as the future activities of the Working Party should, if continued, contribute to the priority areas of work of the Commission, in particular in the field of environmental protection. Certain delegations noted with satisfaction that work had started on the study on low-waste processes. The delegation of the Ukrainian SSR reiterated its invitation to hold a seminar on new materials in engineering industries, possibly with a modified outline, in Kiev in 1991-1992. Delegations expressed interest in accelerating work on the finalization of the study on food-processing and packaging machinery. Certain delegations supported topics provisionally included in Part II of the programme, i.e. on assembly automation and the shipbuilding industry. Delegations welcomed the results of the Seminar on Computer-integrated Manufacturing held in Bulgaria in September 1990 and thanks were expressed to the Government of Bulgaria for the host facilities provided.

289. The series of workshops organized by the Working Party in the field of rehabilitation engineering were recognized as a contribution of the Commission to the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons. The first of these workshops would be held in June 1990 in Washington D.C. and the second in the first quarter of 1991 in Norway.

290. Several delegations supported the suggestion made by the Chairman of the Working Party concerning the need to continue the discussion, started at the tenth session, on the role of the Working Party, also taking into account the stated priorities of the Commission.

291. Referring to the activities of ECE's industrial sector as a whole, including the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology, the Working Party on Engineering and Automation, the Steel Committee and the Chemical Industry Committee, one delegation supported by two others, insisted on the necessity of restructuring these groups in connection with redefining ECE priorities.

292. At its twelfth meeting, the Commission adopted its decision N (45) on engineering industries and automation (for the text see Chapter IV).

Medium- and long-term economic prospects and issues: analysis of economic growth conditions (agenda item 7(p))

293. This item was considered in conjunction with item 2(f) - Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments (see paragraphs 174 to 182 above).

Recommendations of the Sessional Committee

294. At its tenth meeting, the Commission heard a report by the Chairman of the Sessional Committee on the outcome of its deliberations on the activities of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, on concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work for 1990-1994 and on other items assigned to it by the Plenary for preliminary consideration.

295. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee informed the Commission that the participants had reviewed the activities and programmes of work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and bodies directly dependent on the Commission, as presented by their respective Chairmen. The discussions had been thorough and constructive, and interesting and comprehensive views on the various agenda items had been presented.

296. Delegates had commented favourably on the work of the ECE secretariat in implementing the programme of work of the different subsidiary bodies.

297. On behalf of the Sessional Committee, the Chairman of the Committee recommended that

(a) The Commission approve the programme of work for the period 1990-1994;

(b) The Commission approve draft decisions on the following questions:

(i) The Terms of Reference of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems (agenda item 2(f))

(ii) The Code of Conduct on Accidental Pollution of Transboundary Inland Waters (agenda item 2(f))

(iii) Standardization and Related Activities (agenda item 7(n))

298. The Chairman of the Sessional Committee thanked the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, the participants and all those who had contributed to the Committee's work.

299. The Chairman of the Commission expressed to the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee and to all representatives who had taken part in the Committee's deliberations, the Commission's appreciation and thanks for the work which they had accomplished.

Programme of work for 1990-1994
(agenda item 8)

Documentation: E/ECE/1222, E/ECE/1203

300. This item was considered together with item 2(e) - Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work.

301. Comments on this item were made taking into consideration the preliminary draft programme budget proposal (E/ECE/1206) and the draft medium-term plan for 1992-1997.

302. The delegation of Ireland, speaking on behalf of the European Community and its member States, recalling the position it has taken at previous sessions, declared that, without impinging on the prerogatives of the competent bodies of the UN system, its intention was to use the information contained in the ECE proposed programme budget to consider the relationship between programme activities and available resources in the light of priorities set by the Commission.

303. The same delegation recalled also the views it had expressed on the draft medium-term plan at the Commission's session in 1989, particularly its perception of the Plan as being rather ambitious. In its view, the ECE should avoid fragmentation of effort dispersed over too many sub-regional projects and give careful consideration to several perceived objectives on a case by case basis. This delegation reaffirmed its position regarding priorities. It questioned also the transmission of a revised medium-term plan by the secretariat to the Secretary General of the United Nations, particularly when the plan contained important amendments on which member States had not had the opportunity to comment at the resumed session. It therefore expressed a reluctance to support the plan as "the principal policy directive of the organization as a whole".

304. Reference was made by the same delegation to the decision adopted by the Commission at its special session in 1987. In this connection, it emphasized the importance it attached to considering new elements for inclusion in the programme, and requesting the secretariat to provide a statement on its capacity to assist in the effective implementation of the new programme element. With respect to eventual consideration of the general question of ECE expert

advisory services, the secretariat should first provide information on the sources and apportionment of funding.

305. The views expressed by the delegation of Ireland were supported by some other delegations. These delegations added that, with respect to the programme budget, they did not anticipate a real growth of regular resources in the next biennium for ECE. Therefore they suggested that more of the available resources be moved to areas where ECE had demonstrated its efficiency. Such an operation would necessitate streamlining or deleting activities in non-priority sectors of the ECE programme of work.

306. One delegation stated that the new version of the medium-term plan did not properly reflect the comments it had made at the resumed session in 1989. It took the view that the Commission should set general priorities which were of interest to all member States. It cited energy as a sector of increasing activity for ECE, and expressed concern about the reduction of resources allocated to this area as well as to activities in the field of industry. With respect to the changes occurring in Europe, they had already been reflected in the priorities set by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies. These Bodies had been constantly concerned by the priority issue. This delegation supported the programme of work submitted to the Commission for consideration and reaffirmed its willingness to contribute positively to the process of reorganization of ECE general priorities.

307. In reply to the concern expressed by delegations about the revised version of the medium-term plan, particularly the absence of the inclusion of any of the many alternative contributions by member States, the secretariat indicated that the new text incorporated comments made by delegations at the resumed session of the Commission in 1989. The medium-term plan had been submitted by the Executive Secretary to United Nations Headquarters and its agreed final version by the secretariat was not yet available. That version would be considered by the CPC at its forthcoming session (May/June 1990) and there were still possibilities for delegations to amend it there if they so wished. Subsequent to its adoption by the General Assembly, the medium-term plan could be revised every two years. With regard to the risk of fragmentation of ECE activities, the secretariat recalled the request made by the Executive Secretary in his introductory statement to the effect that delegations indicate activities which they considered of low priority so that these problems could be avoided.

Other business
(agenda item 9)

(a) Date, place and agenda for the forty-sixth session

308. The Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the tentative date for the holding of the forty-sixth session of the Commission in Geneva was 9-19 April 1991. In proposing these dates he explained that they respected the established ECE practice of convening the session to avoid as far as possible the holidays of Easter and May Day. The Commission decided to leave to the Executive Secretary the responsibility for determining, in consultation with the Officers of the Commission and in the light of the relevant arrangements of ECOSOC and the General Assembly, the precise dates of the forty-sixth session, and requested the Executive Secretary to inform the Governments thereon.

309. Pursuant to Council resolution 1894 (LVII) the Executive Secretary informed the Commission that the provisional agenda for the forty-sixth session, which would be prepared in consultation with the Officers of the Commission, would be along the same basic lines as this year's agenda. He referred however to the difficulties involved in foreseeing what would happen in the coming months in view of the rapid and dramatic changes within the region which had occurred over the course of the past year. He also noted that the mandate which the Commission had given for the

Ad Hoc Working Group to elaborate concrete proposals as well as the possible establishment of a Special Working Group might well influence the agenda for the next Commission session. He stated his intention to make full use of the established ECE practice of discussing the proposed draft agenda with the Bureau in the light of prevailing circumstances, and thus to ensure that the members of the Commission would be fully involved in the shaping of the agenda in good time.

(b) Commemoration of the victims of the Chernobyl accident

310. At its eleventh meeting the Chairman announced that the Ukrainian SSR and Byelorussian SSR had declared 26 April as a day of commemoration of the Chernobyl tragedy. The Commission observed a minute of silence in memory of the victims.

Adoption of draft resolutions and decisions

311. At its twelfth meeting the Commission adopted one resolution and 14 decisions, the full texts of which are contained in Chapter IV.

312. On this occasion, one delegation recalled its proposal to consider the possibility of changing the name of the Commission to "Economic Commission for Europe and North America". It viewed such a name change as an important step in clarifying the parameters of east/west economic co-operation and the Commission's role therein, and a useful element in creating a revitalized image for the ECE. It indicated that it would commend this initiative to the Special Working Group where it was hoped that it would receive complete consideration with a view to adoption at the Commission's resumed session.

Annual Report of the Commission
(agenda item 11)

313. In presenting the draft report for adoption the rapporteurs suggested that the Special Working Group review the ECE's reporting procedures.

314. At its twelfth meeting, on 27 April 1990, the Commission adopted its report covering the period from 22 April 1989 to 27 April 1990.

CHAPTER IV

RESOLUTION AND OTHER DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE FORTY-FIFTH SESSION OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

I. RESOLUTION

1 (45) THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE AND ITS FUTURE ACTIVITIES

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its previous resolutions, in particular resolution 1 (44), and conscious of the important role of the ECE as an instrument for the implementation of the principles and aims of the United Nations Charter at the regional level,

Conscious of the role of the ECE in the multilateral implementation of the pertinent provisions of the Helsinki Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) and subsequent CSCE documents, and recognizing that the Madrid and the Vienna Concluding Documents also contain recommendations directed towards the future work of the Commission,

Reiterating the determination of each of the member countries of the ECE to promote stable and equitable international economic relations in the mutual interest of all States and in this spirit to participate equitably in promoting and strengthening economic co-operation with the developing countries, in particular the least developed among them,

Having considered the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their activities, the notes and reports of the Executive Secretary, in particular his report E/ECE/1199 on the Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1989, and the programme of work for 1990-1994 (E/ECE/1222), taking into account decision R (44) taken by the resumed session of the forty-fourth ECE annual session, and noting that during the forty-fifth session delegations have made a number of comments and suggestions concerning the Commission's programme of work,

1. Calls upon the member Governments taking into account previously adopted resolutions and decisions to continue to take full advantage of the potential of the Economic Commission for Europe as an instrument for strengthening economic relations and multilateral co-operation in the region;

2. Considers in this connection that full respect for the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Helsinki Final Act, as well as the full implementation of all the provisions by all participating States of that Final Act and those contained in the Madrid and the Vienna Concluding Documents, are essential bases for the development of the economic co-operation among them; expresses its desire that the high-level meeting of Representatives of Participating States of the CSCE possibly to be convened in late 1990 will also give a positive impetus for developing co-operation in the region; and reaffirms at the same time that such co-operation contributes to the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole;

3. Recalls that the Vienna Concluding Document contains provisions which carry implications for the activities of the Commission; recognizes the possibilities open to the Commission for contributing to their multilateral implementation; requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the above-mentioned document which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the Economic Commission for Europe;

4. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report on his attendance at the CSCE Meeting on the Protection of the Environment held in Sofia from 16 October to 3 November 1989 and the CSCE Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe held in Bonn from 19 March to 11 April 1990 (E/ECE/1204 and Add.1); and requests the Executive Secretary to accept the invitation to attend the Meeting on the Mediterranean in Palma de Mallorca to be convened from 24 September to 19 October 1990, and to contribute, within the existing resources and drawing on ECE experience, to this meeting and to report to its forty-sixth session;

5. Notes the report on the work and future activities of the Commission (E/ECE/1199) prepared by the Executive Secretary;

6. Reaffirms its determination to implement the provisions and proposals contained in the Supplementary Report of the special session of the ECE (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1), as agreed in decision A (1987-S); notes the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1203); and calls upon its subsidiary bodies to pay due attention to these reports when reviewing and carrying out their programmes;

7. Calls upon its subsidiary bodies to continue to pay special attention to the interests of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view and to note that some such countries are faced with serious structural and economic constraints;

8. Reaffirms the importance of co-operation in the field of science and technology as an essential element of the overall relations of its member States and its role in ECE's activities; and recommends a reassessment of the direction and tasks of the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology taking into account the new developments providing new opportunities in the region;

9. Takes note of the report of the thirty-eighth session of the Committee on the Development of Trade; underlines the importance of the further development of mutually advantageous trade and commercial and industrial co-operation in the region; and requests the Committee on the Development of Trade to continue its work directed towards these objectives;

10. Takes note of the on-going preparations for the seventh meeting of the Senior Advisers on Energy which will take place from 29 October-1 November 1990;

11. Expresses its readiness to continue involving business and scientific circles and organizing round table discussions on actual problems of the region;

12. Notes the Executive Secretary's reports E/ECE/1201 and E/ECE/1202 and requests its subsidiary bodies to take into account in their activities the possible contributions of the Economic Commission for Europe to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries and the necessity of effective co-operation with other international organizations in order to avoid duplication of activities;

13. Approves its programme of work for 1990-1991; and endorses in principle, subject to review at its forty-sixth session, its programme of work for 1990-1994;

14. Requests the Executive Secretary to transmit the present resolution as well as other decisions of this session, together with the views expressed or agreed in relation thereto by member Governments, to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned and requests them to take these into account in their work and when reviewing their respective programmes.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 56 above)

II. OTHER DECISIONS

A (45) THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Bearing in mind its mandate,

Stressing the importance of the political and economic reforms taking place in countries members of the ECE, and of a supportive international economic environment,

Viewing the profound and rapid changes taking place in countries members of the ECE and wishing to maintain the valuable momentum built up at the CSCE Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe, held in Bonn from 19 March to 11 April 1990,

Considering that the process of economic reform and structural adjustment, with increased reliance on market forces, will enhance economic performance, improve the conditions for closer co-operation and contribute to a more open world trade system,

Considering also that the progressive convergence of economic policies among its member States opens new long-term perspectives for the strengthening of their economic relations,

Wishing to create favourable conditions for a harmonious development and diversification of the economic relations among the countries of the region, based on internationally agreed rules and practices,

Conscious of the need for co-ordination among the different existing international economic institutions to avoid duplication and to ensure the maximum effectiveness of their work,

Taking account of the limited resources available for ECE work within the UN regular budget and the need to make most effective use of the available staff and financial resources,

Taking into account the objectives assigned to and the work accomplished by the Ad hoc Working Group concerning, inter alia, setting relevant priorities and identifying low priority areas,

Bearing in mind the decision of the forty-fifth session on economies in transition,

1. Decides to set up a Special Working Group (SWG), chaired by the Bureau of its forty-fifth annual session, to undertake, in light of the considerations mentioned above, the following:

(a) to define priority areas, according to prevailing needs and circumstances, both at general and sectoral levels, for future action by the ECE, taking into account its fields of competence, the activities of other international institutions and the improvement of conditions for closer co-operation arising from recent changes in the region including the economic reforms in countries members of the ECE, with continued attention to the needs and constraints faced by the member countries which are developing from the economic point of view;

(b) to develop practical measures in these priority areas in order to improve the usefulness of the work undertaken by the ECE in accordance with the invitation addressed by the Bonn Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe to the ECE;

(c) to elaborate, in sectors not identified as priorities, broad outlines of the work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies which are relevant to promoting the process of economic reform and to integrating the economies in transition with the global economy;

(d) to redefine, where appropriate, the mandates of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and to make recommendations for the strengthening, the elimination, merging or creation of Principal Subsidiary Bodies, (which may have implications for the organization of the secretariat), bearing in mind the needs of member States in areas of work of regional interest and mutual advantage;

(e) to make relevant recommendations for decision to a resumed session of the forty-fifth annual session of the ECE to be convened in December 1990;

2. Requests the Bureau to hold informal consultations with member States with a view to

- starting the work of the SWG on 21 June 1990,
- securing the timely preparation of the work,
- establishing the agenda and organizing the work, including a process of informal consultations among Member States prior to the meeting of the SWG to be held immediately before the resumed forty-fifth Annual Session,

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to provide to the SWG all the necessary information, technical and administrative assistance and advice on relevant matters, including financial implications;

4. Requests its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to co-operate fully with the Special Working Group; and asks the Executive Secretary to transmit the present decision to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 57 above)

B (45) TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER PROBLEMS

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions A (1987-S), E (43), and I (44),

Decides to adopt the following terms of reference of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems:

The Senior Advisers in conformity with the character and specific functions of ECE are charged by the Commission with providing a forum for an exchange of experience and information; discussion and consultation; action on environmental and water issues including pollution control; seeking coherent solutions to problems regarding environmental protection and improvement, in particular problems of a transboundary nature which are of broad concern to ECE Governments. The Senior Advisers will bear in mind the need for integrated environmental and water protection as well as sustainable use and development of resources. In carrying out these activities, the Senior Advisers shall, inter alia:

(a) initiate, carry out and co-ordinate activities designed to promote co-operation among ECE Governments in their environmental and water policies;

(b) identify, examine and concentrate on selected problems of environmental and water policy which are of major concern to Governments in the ECE region, taking into account their complex character, and examining the legal, administrative, managerial, economic and technical aspects of these problems, in close co-operation with other ECE bodies and other international organizations;

(c) propose to the Commission issues of particular importance the consideration of which falls under the competence of other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies;

(d) encourage the study of technical means for protecting the environment and water resources, stimulate the development of analytical tools and methods, and the exchange between ECE member Governments of experience in these fields;

(e) assemble periodically information on the state of the environment and water management in the ECE region and on national policies and legislation as well as examine the implications of such policies and promote the development of common data systems;

(f) promote the development of international agreements and other forms of international arrangements dealing with environmental and water problems of concern to ECE Governments, in particular problems of a transboundary nature;

(g) assist, at the request of all ECE member Governments sharing a particular water resource, in the expansion of regional co-operation on water problems;

(h) consider, in close co-operation with other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies, major environmental and water problems and issues related to the rational use of natural resources, and examine possible responses, including, inter alia, the development of EIA procedures, the elaboration of guidelines for the conservation of fauna and flora, and the development and broad application of low- and non-waste technologies;

(i) review periodically, in the interest of consistency in ECE environmental and water activities, all relevant activities of member countries and ECE programmes and, inter alia, take into account the information on activities carried out by the Executive Body for the implementation of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution in order to provide the necessary assistance;

(j) be available to assist in the implementation within the ECE region of the United Nations Environment Programme;

(k) keep themselves informed of the relevant work done and planned by other United Nations bodies and by other international organizations and take appropriate steps to harmonize to the extent possible their activities with respect to these bodies and avoid duplication.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 126 above)

C (45) THE CODE OF CONDUCT ON ACCIDENTAL POLLUTION OF TRANSBOUNDARY INLAND WATERS

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Mindful that prevention and control of transboundary pollution in rivers, lakes, reservoirs and aquifers crossing or forming frontiers between two or more countries, as well as prevention and control of floods and other natural disasters are important and urgent tasks the effective accomplishment of which can only be ensured by enhanced co-operation among riparian countries,

Aware that accidental pollution can create specific threats to inland water resources with particular reference to groundwaters,

Conscious that man-made accidents and natural disasters entailing the risk of pollution of transboundary inland waters can never be totally excluded,

Recognizing the existence of adverse effects, in the short or long term, of accidental pollution of transboundary inland waters on the economies and well-being of the countries concerned,

Mindful of the importance and urgency of preventing, controlling and reducing accidental pollution both in terms of quantity and quality, and of promoting all measures which stimulate rational, economic and efficient use of prevention and abatement measures to ensure economic development in a manner compatible with the maintenance and improvement of the quality of life for present and future generations,

Taking into account that transboundary inland waters do not lend themselves to purely national approaches because natural phenomena and human activities, including those originating outside the transboundary area, may have impacts across borders and require co-operation among riparian countries,

Commending the efforts already undertaken by riparian countries along transboundary inland waters to strengthen co-operation, on a bilateral and multilateral level, in particular for the prevention and control of transboundary water pollution including accidental pollution,

Underlining the relevant principles of international law and custom, in particular the principles of good neighbourliness, reciprocity, non-discrimination and good faith,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE), the Concluding Documents of the Madrid and Vienna Meetings of Representatives of the Participating States of the CSCE, the ECE Declaration of Policy on Prevention and Control of Water Pollution including Transboundary Pollution, the ECE Decision on Co-operation in the Field of Transboundary Waters, and the UNEP Principles of Conduct in the Field of the Environment for the Guidance of States in the Conservation and Harmonious Utilization of Natural Resources Shared by two or more States and the UNEP Handbook on Awareness and Preparedness for Emergencies at Local Level (APELL - Process),

Affirming the vital need to reinforce international co-operation among the countries concerned to develop appropriate national policies and to co-ordinate national action for preventing and combating accidental pollution of transboundary inland waters during the pre-accident and post-accident stages, by means of various management practices, with particular regard to effective early warning and alarm systems, information exchange, compatibility of monitoring systems and joint or co-ordinated contingency planning,

Recalling that countries have, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles of international law, the sovereign right to exploit their own resources, including transboundary inland waters, pursuant to their own environmental policies, and the responsibility to ensure that activities within their jurisdiction or control do not cause damage to the environment of other countries or of areas beyond the limits of national jurisdiction,

Recognizing the need to develop appropriate national and international rules concerning responsibility, liability and compensation for damage caused by accidental pollution,

Mindful of the importance of protecting confidential and proprietary information relating to accidental pollution,

1. Decides to adopt the Code of Conduct on Accidental Pollution of Transboundary Inland Waters, as contained in document E/ECE/1225;

2. Invites Governments to develop or strengthen methodologies, measures and practices regarding the accidental pollution of transboundary inland waters, both at the pre-accident and at the post-accident stages;

3. Recommends to Governments that they apply the Code of Conduct on Accidental Pollution of Transboundary Inland Waters, as an essential element of further co-operation among them as well as an input to national water-pollution control policies.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 127 above)

D (45) THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION CONCERNING ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION IN EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling ECOSOC resolution 1989/85 concerning the role of the United Nations in the rapid identification, analysis and observation of the developments which interest the world economy,

Recalling further that pursuant to the Document of the Bonn Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe, the Commission is invited to develop at its annual session practical measures in priority fields,

Reaffirming its mandate and those of its Principal Subsidiary Bodies,

Taking account of the fact that the recent and current developments in Europe modify in a varying manner the characteristics and functioning of the societies and economies of countries of the region,

Considering that in view of its composition and the nature of the co-operation which it implements, it has a role to play in assisting the transition to market economies,

Bearing in mind that other international institutions which exist or are being set up are already dealing with this question, either by assisting with the establishment of precise assessments of the economic situation of the countries concerned, or by defining economic programmes aimed at diminishing the principal macro-economic imbalances, or by contributing, each in its own way, specific economic assistance to several of these countries,

1. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare, in consultations with member States, taking due account of work being done or planned by other international organizations, a short note concerning the transition towards market economies which presents a number of practical workshop themes which characterize different aspects of this process;

2. Requests the Senior Economic Advisers, at their next meeting in May 1990, to discuss on the basis of the secretariat note practical themes for workshops that may be proposed to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned at their next sessions, using whenever possible an inter-disciplinary approach. They will strive to avoid any duplication with current or planned work in other international institutions, in particular the OECD and the International Chamber of Commerce;

3. Requests that those Principal Subsidiary Bodies designated by the Senior Economic Advisers contribute to the preparation for practical workshops on the transition to market economies, to be held under the auspices of the Senior Economic Advisers. The Principal Subsidiary Bodies will take note of various national experiences and different concepts of reform, the factors which influence these countries and the pace of reform implementation. They will strive to seek ways to facilitate co-operation in the field of economic policies;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to ensure that special attention be given to close collaboration with the European Community and international institutions dealing with this issue, among others IMF, IBRD, EBRD and in particular OECD, in order to avoid duplication of effort, and bearing in mind the fields where ECE has particular competence;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 211 above)

E (45) CLIMATE CHANGE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 43/53 on the Protection of the Global Climate for Present and Future Generations of Mankind, which recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind, General Assembly resolution 44/207 and Commission decision B (44),

Recalling the role of the Joint WMO/UNEP Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in providing internationally co-ordinated scientific assessments of the magnitude, timing and potential environmental and socio-economic impact of climate change and realistic response strategies,

Convinced that the ECE can make an important contribution to consider responses aimed at preventing or adapting to detrimental effects on climate and other activities affecting the ecological balance,

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1207 on climate change and the participation of the ECE secretariat in the sessions of the IPCC and in this respect, requests the Executive Secretary to continue to report thereon to the ECE member Governments;

2. Expresses its satisfaction that the substantive issues related to climate change have been taken up by a number of ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies including the Senior Advisers on Energy, the Committee on Electric Power, the Coal Committee and the Committee on Gas;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue the assessment of the Commission's programmes, activities and discussions bearing on the relationship of human activities and the climate, taking also into account the ongoing work and studies of the IPCC, OECD and IEA and to submit a report to the forty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 244 above)

F (45) STATISTICAL ACTIVITIES

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision C (44),

Taking into account the new needs of all-European economic co-operation, the transition into market economies, the processes of integration in Europe, and the need rapidly to find statistical instruments to monitor economic, social and environmental trends cross-nationally over all of Europe,

Recognizing that the provision of internationally comparable statistics on the basis of harmonized statistical methods, nomenclatures and standards in the ECE region represent a key factor in the integration into Europe of the economies in transition,

Considering that the current needs and expanding new requirements can lead to inadequacy of resources,

Recalling the debate of the Committee on the Development of Trade in December 1989 on disparities in external trade statistics,

Taking also note of the timely initiative taken by the Bureau of the Conference of European Statisticians at the Consultation on 23 February 1990 to develop a flexible perspective for the future role of the Conference in the changing context of all-European international co-operation,

1. Invites the Conference of European Statisticians, while maintaining the basic orientation of the objectives and work methods, to adapt its work programme to the present needs, in particular emphasizing transition, integration and development projects that can most suitably be dealt with in multilateral co-operation;

2. Requests the Conference of European Statisticians to anticipate, during the current review of its work programme, requirements for data as well as for related statistical assistance from emerging new sub-regional forms of international co-operation;

3. Invites the Conference of European Statisticians, after consultation with interested institutions, to prepare a report on the measures to encourage a co-ordinated methodological approach and to facilitate the exchange of data between international and supranational organizations, in the field of statistics in the European region, in the interest of the most efficient use of their resources;

4. Invites member countries to raise the intensity of their contribution and encourage further co-operative work within the work programme of the Conference of European Statisticians and to determine current participation in meetings and work sessions, timely response to requests for data, etc. in accordance with the increased importance given by the Commission to the work of the Conference;

5. Requests the Conference of European Statisticians to provide a framework for methodological assistance being given to national statistical offices in accordance with their requirements and plans for the introduction of international standard concepts and classifications, promoting at the same time harmonization and updating the current practices of all applicable international statistical standard classifications;

6. Requests the Conference of European Statisticians, in collaboration with the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the ECE, to reaffirm the priorities in their statistical activities and to indicate those sectors where streamlining is inevitable;

7. Invites the Executive Secretary to convene in 1990 a joint meeting of the Committee on the Development of Trade and the Conference of European Statisticians in order to examine the disparities in external trade statistics and the means to improve their international comparability;

8. Draws the attention of the Executive Secretary to the importance of statistics within the existing programmes, to the necessity of adequate human resources and material support from the secretariat for the implementation of the envisaged priority tasks in the work programme of the Commission as a whole, and requests the Executive Secretary to report to the thirty-eighth session of the Conference of European Statisticians on the resources needed by the secretariat to meet the envisaged expanding new requirements;

9. Requests the Executive Secretary to make the necessary reallocation of available resources according to the decision of the Conference of European Statisticians and to report to the Commission at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 246 above)

G (45) ECE'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR NATURAL DISASTER REDUCTION, INCLUDING EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 44/236 which, inter alia, calls upon the regional commissions to play an active role in implementing the activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction,

Considering that it might make an important contribution to fostering international co-operation in the field of natural disaster reduction,

Bearing in mind significant consequences associated with adverse effects of earthquakes,

Recalling the conclusions of the ECE Seminar on the Prediction of Earthquakes held in Lisbon (Portugal) in 1988 as well as its decision F (44),

1. Urges the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology to take a final decision at SAST-18 on the convening in 1990 of an ad hoc expert group meeting to formulate proposals on the follow-up action to the Lisbon Seminar;

2. Welcomes the willingness of the Government of the USSR to submit to the next session of the Senior Advisers a proposal on convening an international symposium on earthquake prediction, monitoring facilities and techniques to promote joint efforts in a co-ordinated way in this area;

3. Calls upon the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning to review its programme of work to identify ways in which it could undertake activities relevant to the tasks of the Decade, in close liaison with the INDR Secretariat;

4. Urges the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology to consider the adequacy of existing intergovernmental co-operation in the ECE region on earthquake prediction on the basis of a note prepared by the secretariat;

5. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-sixth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 249 above)

H (45) THE REPORT OF THE WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions A (43) and G (44) on the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development,

Recalling also the Progress Report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1195) on the contribution of the ECE to the international efforts towards sustainable development and the report (ECE/AC.18/2) of the Ad hoc Meeting of Experts on the Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development held 10-12 October 1988, in particular the conclusions therein, which were endorsed in its decision G (44),

Recalling further the Regional Strategy for Environmental Protection and Rational Use of Natural Resources in ECE Member Countries Covering the Period up to the Year 2000 and Beyond,

Welcoming General Assembly resolution 44/227 on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond and 42/187 on the World Commission on Environment and Development, as well as General Assembly resolution 44/288 on the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

1. Agrees to intensify further its efforts towards promoting and achieving sustainable development by integrating environmental concerns and considerations into projects and programmes in all areas;

2. Reiterates its call upon its subsidiary bodies actively to promote sustainable development as a guiding principle for all relevant activities of the ECE;

3. Welcomes the progress already made in developing sectoral and interdisciplinary activities contributing to sustainable development, and welcomes in particular the results of the work of the Joint Task Force on Environment and Economics;

4. Welcomes also the progress made in preparations for the regional conference at ministerial level to be held in Bergen (Norway) from 8-16 May 1990 in co-operation with ECE and in consultation with UNEP, to review progress in the follow-up of selected aspects of the Report of the World Commission, and invites the Executive Secretary to submit the relevant agreed results of the Conference to the appropriate Principal Subsidiary Bodies with a view to consideration of the inclusion of possible new sectoral and cross-sectoral activities in the work programmes of the ECE;

5. Endorses the continuation of the intersectoral co-operation between the Senior Economic Advisers and the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems in the form of a Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics, to hold its first meeting prior to the fourth session of the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems, to consider relevant parts of the outcome of the Bergen Conference, taking into account the recommendations of the Ad hoc Meeting on Environment and Economics (Geneva, 8 10 January 1990), and invites the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies to co-operate with the Joint Working Group;

6. Considers that the Ministerial Declaration, the Agenda for Action and the report of the Bergen Conference should constitute a major substantive contribution by the ECE region as such to the 1992 Conference;

7. Invites the Executive Secretary to continue to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other United Nations regional commissions the activities undertaken by ECE aimed at contributing to sustainable development and strengthening of international co-operation in this field, and in particular the results of the Bergen Conference;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary, in the light, inter alia, of the consideration of this subject by the Principal Subsidiary Bodies, to report to its forty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 255 above)

I (45) CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND WATER RESOURCES AND IN THE FIELD OF LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions I (42), I (44) and J (44),

Stressing that co-operation in order to protect the environment is one of the priorities within the ECE,

Noting with appreciation the progress that has been achieved within the framework of the 1979 Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution,

Underlining the importance of the Regional Strategy for Environmental Protection and Rational Use of Natural Resources in ECE member countries covering the period up to the year 2000 and beyond, for further strengthening environmental co-operation in the ECE region,

Noting with concern the serious environmental implications in some ECE member States resulting from major accidents with transboundary consequences, such as the Chernobyl accident, and recognizing the urgent need to promote further co-operation under the aegis of competent international organizations, in particular IAEA and WHO, to mitigate their consequences and help prevent further accidents with transboundary consequences,

Welcoming the improved conditions of co-operation among member countries and the new impetus which the recent changes in the ECE region have given to the environmental work in the Commission,

Emphasizing the need for further preventive action to protect and improve the environment in the ECE region, and stressing the important role of the ECE in elaborating international legal instruments to this end,

Stressing the need for the improvement of environmental management in the light of changing socio-economic conditions,

Bearing in mind the Concluding Document of the Vienna Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and the substantive outcome of the CSCE Meeting on the Protection of the Environment held in Sofia 1989, with special regard to the elaboration of legal instruments as recommended by the Participating States of that

meeting, bearing in mind that the results will be evaluated by the next Follow-up Meeting of the CSCE, to be held in Helsinki in 1992,

1. Appeals to ECE member Governments to strengthen their co-operation and intensify efforts aimed at protecting and improving the environment;

2. Notes with satisfaction the decision of the Senior Advisers to establish an ad hoc Working Group to elaborate, in the light of the outcome on this subject of the Sofia CSCE meeting on the protection of the environment, a draft legal instrument on transboundary impacts of industrial accidents, and to entrust the Working Party on Water Problems with the elaboration of a draft framework convention on the protection and use of transboundary watercourses and international lakes, as contained in section X and Annexes III and IV of the report of the third session of the Senior Advisers (document ECE/ENVWA/14), and requests them to expedite their work accordingly;

3. Expresses its satisfaction with the progress made in the elaboration of a Draft Framework Agreement on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context, and invites member Governments and regional economic integration organizations to expedite their work in order to finalize the draft for adoption by the Senior Advisers at their fourth session;

4. Expresses its satisfaction with the progress achieved towards the preparation of a new protocol on volatile organic compounds by the Working Group on Volatile Organic Compounds, emphazises the importance of elaborating further without delay the necessary substantiation for this protocol, and calls upon Contracting Parties to contribute actively to the work of the Working Group on VOCs;

5. Stresses the need to elaborate appropriate proposals and a timetable for revision of existing, or preparation of new international agreements for further reduction of sulphur emissions after 1993, on the basis of critical loads and other considerations, and invites Contracting Parties and Signatories to fully contribute to the Working Group, established under the Convention, for the development of a common understanding of critical loads, and of proposals for abatement strategies, taking into account the best available scientific and technological developments, internationally accepted critical loads and overall emission reductions;

6. Appeals to the Contracting Parties of the Convention to strengthen and develop EMEP as agreed upon in the Vienna Concluding Document and welcomes the approved amendment by the Executive Body to include mapping of current loads and levels in EMEP;

7. Invites the Senior Advisers to complete in due time the preparation of a draft European Red List of Threatened Animals and Plants;

8. Invites also the Senior Advisers to continue their work aimed at improving the application of effective and environmentally-sound technologies and the enhancing of scientific and technological co-operation, including the exchange of information on best available technologies for improved environmental protection, industrial safety and emergency response, in accordance with the national laws, regulations and practice;

9. Invites the Senior Advisers to examine the possibilities to reinforce the role of the ECE in environmental co-operation within its mandate;

10. Invites the Senior Advisers to promote, in the light of changing socio-economic conditions in the ECE region, the integration of policies based on sustainable development into planning and decision-making and economic activities, which could be carried out, if agreed by the Senior Advisers at their fourth session, by organizing workshops or other relevant undertakings;

11. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 259 above)

J (45) EDIFACT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decision L (44) concerning UN/EDIFACT,

Reaffirming the importance of UN/EDIFACT as a standard that will permit unprecedented increases in efficiency and financial savings in the conduct of international trade,

Taking note of the timely request of the Committee on the Development of Trade that the secretariat estimate resources required to develop and maintain UN/EDIFACT and submit its estimate to the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures (ECE/TRADE/167, paragraph 62),

Welcoming the analysis prepared by the secretariat (TRADE/WP.4/R.659) in response to the request of the Committee on the Development of Trade and the consequent recommendation of the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures (paragraph 39 of the report of the thirty-first session of the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures, TRADE/WP.4/171),

1. Expresses its appreciation to the secretariat and to the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures for undertaking and completing this task in so timely and thorough a manner;

2. Endorses the recommendation of the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures in regard to allocation of resources to UN/EDIFACT;

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to provide, from within existing resources and on the schedule detailed in the annex to document TRADE/WP.4/R.659, the additional resources specified in that annex, and described by the Working Party as "the absolute minimum needed to secure the continued existence and growth of UN/EDIFACT";

4. Further requests the Executive Secretary to draw these resources for UN/EDIFACT from areas of ECE activities other than the sectors of environment, statistics, economic analysis and transport. This decision does not prejudge the outcome of the Special Working Group on the Activities of the ECE.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 269 above)

K (45) CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF TRANSPORT

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Recalling its decisions M (44) and N (44),

Bearing in mind the Concluding Document of the Vienna Meeting of Representatives of the Participating States in the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe and in particular its recognition of the important role of transport in economic and social development and the

overall consequences of increased activity in the transport sector, including problems related to the environment, and of the work done by the Economic Commission for Europe in that context,

Underlining again the priority character of its work in the field of transport,

Endorsing the conclusions drawn by the Inland Transport Committee at its forty-eighth session (ECE/TRANS/68) concerning the priorities for its work,

Conscious of the problems related to safety, environment and energy, which may result from a possibly increased activity in the transport sector as a consequence of economic changes,

Considering it useful to estimate the foreseeable impact of these changes on traffic flows, including on those in the East/West corridor and underlining that such an analysis of traffic flows requires adequate preparatory work in order to get reliable and coherent information systems and data, and requesting that respective efforts should be made,

Noting the results and conclusions drawn by the Inland Transport Committee at its fifty-first (special) session concerning the Convention on Civil Liability for Damage Caused during Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, Rail and Inland Navigation Vessels (CRDI), and at its fifty-second session,

Welcoming the co-operation with international organizations working in the field of transport, including the European Conference of Ministers of Transport (ECMT), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Organization of Co-operation between Railways, with a view to avoiding duplication of work,

Emphasizing that efforts should be continued to meet adequately the needs of the secretariat in terms of personnel and material resources in the sectors defined as absolute priority areas by the Inland Transport Committee, as identified by the Committee at its forty-eighth session (ECE/TRANS/68),

1. Takes note of the reports of the fifty-first and fifty-second sessions of the Inland Transport Committee;

2. Welcomes in particular the decisions

- to execute a common road safety week in the ECE region from 1 to 7 October 1990,

- to start studying the possibilities of a revision of the European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR) with a view to arriving at a single social regime in European road haulage,

- to mandate a final seminar on the question of the Evolution in the Dimensions of Loading Units in 1992;

3. Invites Governments and competent international organizations to participate actively in the road safety week;

4. Underlines again the value of an exchange of information on transport trends in Europe;

5. Endorses the importance of continuing multilateral efforts to reduce air pollution and noise by motor vehicle emissions and therefore invites ECE member countries

- to participate actively in the work of the respective Working Parties of the Inland Transport Committee,

- to make sufficiently available unleaded fuel of satisfactory quality, as a minimum along international transit routes;

6. Underlines the steadily growing importance of a soundly functioning combined transport system, and accordingly the desirability of completing the Draft Agreement on Important International Combined Transport Lines and Related Installations (AGTC);

7. Underlines the importance of continuing the co-operation in harmonizing regulations on motor vehicle construction;

8. Underlines also the importance of the development of a European railway network on the basis of the European Agreement on Main International Railway Lines (AGC) including, inter alia, activities related to the TER project;

9. Invites ECE member countries to spare no efforts to arrive in due course at elaborating the text of a Convention on Customs Treatment of Pool Containers used in International Transport;

10. Calls upon the Executive Secretary to pay particular attention to the designation of priority tasks made in previous years, which require adequate secretariat support in terms of staff and equipment, recalls its previous decisions, expresses its serious concern and accordingly requests the Executive Secretary to take appropriate measures on a permanent basis to this end;

11. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 271 above)

L (45) ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN IN THE LIGHT OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE ON SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

The Economic Commission for Europe,

Reaffirming its decision N (44) and the other decisions previously adopted by the Commission on this subject,

Conscious that the ECE has a useful role to play with respect to the further development of economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE,

Considering that recent developments in various spheres of life in the ECE region are of direct relevance to the forms of future economic co-operation in the Mediterranean region,

Recalling that several Commission member States in the Mediterranean are developing from an economic point of view,

Conscious of the importance of existing bilateral and multilateral forms of co operation in the Mediterranean,

Taking note with satisfaction of the dispositions of the Vienna Concluding Document, providing, inter alia, for the convening of a meeting on the Mediterranean in Palma de Mallorca

from 24 September to 19 October 1990, to which the ECE has been invited, which will consider ways and means of further enhancing various aspects of co-operation including the protection and improvement of Mediterranean ecosystems,

1. Takes note of the Executive Secretary's report E/ECE/1218 on economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE and the encouraging and constructive contributions from the Mediterranean countries as well as from the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;

2. Calls upon the Executive Secretary, after consultations with the interested Governments, to propose to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies for consideration to undertake action-oriented studies in the areas of co-operation already identified in his report E/ECE/1218 including in the field of the protection of the environment in the Mediterranean, and to make proposals to the relevant Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission for consideration in their programme of work, taking all necessary measures to avoid duplication of work with other international organizations,

3. Requests the Executive Secretary to continue to co-operate with the Executive Secretaries of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the other relevant United Nations bodies and to pursue his contacts with the other Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, with a view to increasing inter-regional co-operation on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries;

4. Expresses satisfaction at the activities carried out by the Transport Study Centre for the Eastern Mediterranean in Volos (Greece), the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean in Barcelona (Spain), and the Transport Training Centre in Istanbul (Turkey), confirming that they are of practical value not only for transport issues in the Mediterranean, but for the work of the Inland Transport Committee in general and invites the Committee to take full advantage of the work done by the Centres, inter alia by continuing its co-operation with the Mediterranean Transport Centres in programmes of common interest;

5. Recalls resolution 1988/169 of the Economic and Social Council and the pertinent decisions of the Commission for conferring United Nations status on the above-mentioned Centres and invites the Executive Secretary to pursue his efforts for the implementation of that resolution and to report thereon at the fifty-third session of the Inland Transport Committee;

6. Recommends to the Commission's subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of overall activities and its programme of work, particularly in the light of recent developments in the ECE region;

7. Requests the Executive Secretary to accept the invitation to attend the Palma de Mallorca Meeting on the Mediterranean in accordance with the Vienna Concluding Document and to report to the forty-sixth session of the Commission;

8. Requests the Executive Secretary to prepare for the forty-sixth session a report on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
21 April 1990
(see para. 211 above)

M (45) STANDARDIZATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

The Commission decided :

(a) to take note of the report of the Executive Secretary on the activities of the Commission in the field of standardization and related activities (E/ECE/1219) and the report of the First Meeting of Experts on Standardization Policies (STAND/GE.1/31);

(b) to confirm that the Eleventh Meeting of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies will be held in Geneva from 7 to 11 May 1990 pursuant to the authority in that respect given to the Meeting by the Commission at its forty-fourth session;

(c) to convene the Second Meeting of Experts on Standardization Policies in the first half of 1991. During that Meeting, which might last for three days, experts should consider any matters which may be referred to them by the Eleventh Meeting of Governmental Officials;

(d) to request the Executive Secretary to report to the Commission at its forty-sixth session on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 283 above)

N (45) ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

The Economic Commission for Europe,

1. Takes note of the Report of the tenth session of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (ECE/ENG.AUT/42) and the Report by the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1220);

2. Approves the programme of work for 1990-1994 and the calendar of meetings of the Working Party as contained in annexes I and II, respectively, to document ECE/ENG.AUT/42;

3. Recognizes the three workshops being organized by the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation in the field of rehabilitation engineering as a contribution of the Commission to the activities of the ongoing United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons;

4. Requests the Executive Secretary to report to the forty-sixth session of the Commission on the implementation of this decision.

12th meeting
27 April 1990
(see para. 292 above)

ANNEX I

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF ACTIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE COMMISSION

(TO BE ABSORBED WITHIN THE EXISTING BUDGETARY PROVISIONS)

nil

ANNEX II

LIST OF MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION'S SUBSIDIARY BODIES IN 1989/90

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
THE COMMISSION		
Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution		
Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution	7th session 21-24 November 1989	ECE/EB.AIR/20
Chairman: Mr. J. Thompson (Norway) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. M. Nowicki (Poland) Mr. V.G. Sokolovsky (USSR) Mr. P. Woltner (France)		
Steering Body to the Co-operative Programme for Monitoring and Evaluation of the Long-range Transmission of Air Pollutants in Europe (EMEP)	13th session 30 August - 1 September 1989	EB.AIR/GE.1/14
Chairman: Mr. T. Schneider (Netherlands) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. J. Kolbig (German Democratic Republic) Mr. A. Pressman (USSR) Mr. D.J. Szepesi (Hungary) Mr. E. Weber (Federal Republic of Germany) Mr. N.Z. Heidam (Denmark)		
Group of Economic Experts on Air Pollution	5th session 26-28 June 1989	EB.AIR/GE.2/10
Chairman: Mr. B. Schaerer (Federal Republic of Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Tolokonnikov (USSR)		
Working Group on Effects	8th session 28-30 August 1989	EB.AIR/WG.1/12
Chairman: Mr. R. Chrast (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. R.B. Wilson (United Kingdom)		
Working Group on Volatile Organic Compounds	2nd session 3-5 July 1989	EB.AIR/WG.4/4
Chairman: Mr. P. Woltner (France)		
Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Nowak (German Democratic Republic)	3rd session 30 January - 2 February 1990	EB.AIR/WG.4/6
Working Group on Abatement Strategies	2nd session 22-24 August 1989	EB.AIR/WG.5/4
Chairman: Mr. V. Sokolovsky (USSR)		
Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Persson (Sweden)	3rd session 20-23 February 1990	EB.AIR/WG.5/6

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Energy		
Preparatory Meeting on the Study on the Interrelationships between Environmental and Energy Policies	17-18 May 1989	ENERGY/AC.10/2
Chairman: Mr. C. Andreadis (Greece) Vice-Chairman: Mr. E. Nadezhdin (USSR)		
Ad hoc Meeting on the Study on the Interrelationships between Environmental and Energy Policies	29-31 January 1990	ENERGY/AC.10/4
Chairman: Mr. G. Zeigler (United States) Vice-Chairman: Mr. I. Bobak (Czechoslovakia)		
Symposium on the Optimum Use of Primary Energy Resources in Final Heat Consumption	5-9 June 1989 Prague (Czechoslovakia)	ENERGY/SEM.7/2
Chairman: Mr. I. Bobak (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. E. Tekuelve (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Symposium on Energy Effiiciency Measures in Industry	7-8 November 1989	ENERGY/SEM.9/AC/2
Chairman: Mr. M. Tomsic (Yugoslavia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Volfberg (USSR)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Solar Power Systems	1 February 1990	ENERGY/SEM.10/AC/2
Chairman: Mr. E. Nadezhdin (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. Faas (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Engineering industries and automation		
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	10th session 21-23 February 1990	ECE/ENG.AUT/42
Chairman: Mrs. G. Almqvist (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Dekany (Hungary)		
Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation	11th meeting and 3rd joint meeting 16-18 October 1989	ENG.AUT/AC.1/18 CES/AC.57/26
Chairman: Mrs. I. Platonova (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. G.S. Sangha (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Low-waste Processes and Automated Equipment for the Production of Precision Implements for Engineering Industries	19-20 February 1990	ENG.AUT/AC.15/2
Chairman: Mr. V. Petrichenko (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Seminar on Computer-integrated Manufacturing (CIM)	25-29 September 1989 Botevgrad (Bulgaria)	ENG.AUT/SEM.8/5
Chairman: Mr. A. Alexandrov (Bulgaria) Vice-Chairman: Mr. Y. Bouchut (France)		
Standardization		
Meeting of Experts on Standardization Policies	1st meeting 10-12 May 1989	STAND/GE.1/31
Chairman: Mr. J. Schoenermark (German Democratic Republic) Vice-Chairman: Mr. S.I. Warshaw (United States)		
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL PROBLEMS		
Committee on Agricultural Problems	41st session 5-8 March 1990	ECE/AGRI/107
Chairman: Mr. W. Sperlich (German Democratic Republic) Vice-Chairman: Mr. G.R. Prieto (Spain)		
Working Party on Standardization of Perishable Produce	45th session 6-9 November 1989	AGRI/WP.1/52
Chairman: Mr. G. Augeai (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. K. Hirsch (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Group of Experts on Co-ordination of Standardization of Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	35th session 3-6 July 1989	AGRI/WP.1/GE.1/34
Chairman: Mr. J.P. Blakey (United Kingdom) Vice-Chairman: Mr. Vilchez-Barros (Spain)		
Group of Experts on Standardization of Dry and Dried Produce, including a Symposium on Trends in International Markets and Marketing of Dry and Dried Fruit	36th session 24-28 April 1989 Hamburg (Federal Republic of Germany)	AGRI/WP.1/GE.2/43
Chairman: Mr. K. Hirsch (Federal Republic of Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Augeai (France)		
Group of Experts on Standardization of Eggs and Egg Products	10th session 14-15 June 1989	AGRI/WP.1/GE.8/29
Chairman: Mr. C.J.A. Barel (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Ziolecki (Poland)		
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Mechanization of Agriculture	35th session 16-19 October 1989	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/97
Chairman: Mr. P. Olkinuora (Finland) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Starikov (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Agrarian Structure and Farm Rationalization	10th session 12-17 February 1990 Wageningen (Netherlands)	FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.3/28
Chairman: Mr. H.R. Oosterveld (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Székely (Hungary)		
Seminar on Improved Irrigation Practices to Preserve and Protect Water Resources and Increase Crop Yields	25-29 September 1989 Avignon (France)	AGRI/SEM.26/2 ENVWA/SEM.2/2
Chairman: Mr. G. Manuellan (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A.I. Golovanov (USSR)		
CHEMICAL INDUSTRY COMMITTEE		
Chemical Industry Committee	22nd session 4-6 October 1989	ECE/CHEM/74
Chairman: Mr. P. Noizet (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Evsioukov (USSR)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Substitutes for Tripolyphosphates in Detergents	1st Meeting 11-12 September 1989	CHEM/AC.22/2
Chairman: Mr. A.P. Walker (United Kingdom)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Engineering Plastics	1st Meeting 23-24 January 1990	CHEM/AC.23/2
Chairman: Mr. Z. Laita (Czechoslovakia)		
Group of Experts on the Periodic Survey of the Chemical Industry	15th session 2-3 October 1989	CHEM/GE.1/24
Chairman: Mr. S. Ludwiczak (Poland)		
Seminar on the Role of the Chemical Industry in Environmental Protection	14-17 November 1989	CHEM/SEM.18/3
Chairman: Mr. A. Sieber (Switzerland) Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Maxa (Czechoslovakia)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on Possibilities and Limitations of East-West Joint Ventures in the Chemical Industry	25-26 January 1990	CHEM/SEM.19/AC/2
Chairman: Mr. S. Ludwiczak		
COAL COMMITTEE		
Coal Committee	85th session 30 October - 2 November 1989	ECE/COAL/119
Chairman: Mr. G. Brandes (Federal Republic of Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Stobinski (Poland)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Ad hoc Meeting on the Elaboration of a New International Classification of Coals	8th meeting 4-6 September 1989 Lisbon (Portugal)	COAL/AC.5/16
Chairman: Mr. M. Lemos de Sousa (Portugal) Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Z. Chrusciel (Poland)		
Meeting of Experts on Productivity and Management Problems in the Coal Industry	20th session 22-24 January 1990	COAL/GE.1/34
Chairman: Mr. F. Heising (Federal Republic of Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. K. Cadan (Czechoslovakia)		
Meeting of Experts on the Utilization and Preparation of Solid Fuels	20th session 7-8 September 1989 Lisbon (Portugal)	COAL/GE.3/34
Chairman: Mr. V. Ruban (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Sacrez (Belgium)		
Meeting of Directors of National Mining Research Institutes	10th session 2-6 April 1990 Ankara (Turkey)	COAL/GE.4/18
Chairman: Mr. N. Birtek (Turkey) Vice-Chairman: Mr. Y. Malyshev (USSR)		
Working Party on Coal Trade and Coal Statistics	3rd session 29-31 May 1989 Voorburg (Netherlands)	COAL/WP.1/60
Chairman: Mr. K. Moffitt (United Kingdom) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Sukhov (USSR)		
Informal Meeting of Draught Survey Experts	1st meeting 3 November 1989	COAL/WP.1/AC/2
Chairman: Mr. D. Maiello (Italy) Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Kowalski (Poland)		
Symposium on Forecasting and Prevention of Rock Bursts and Sudden Outbursts of Coal, Rock and Gas	2-6 October 1989 Ostrava (Czechoslovakia)	COAL/SEM.10/2
Chairman: Mr. A. Rocek (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. K. Paul (Federal Republic of Germany)		
CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN STATISTICIANS		
Conference of European Statisticians	37th plenary session 12-16 June 1989	ECE/CES/34
Chairman: Mr. W. Begeer (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Malaguerra (Switzerland)		
Meeting on Questions of Statistics concerning Engineering Industries and Automation	11th meeting and 3rd joint meeting 16-18 October 1989	CES/AC.57/26 ENG.AUT/AC.1/18
Chairman: Mrs. I. Platonova (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. G.S. Sangha (Federal Republic of Germany)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Joint ECE/INSTRAW Meeting on Statistics of Women Chairman: Ms. B. Hedman (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Ms. C. Costa (Switzerland)	2nd meeting 13-16 November 1989	CES/AC.60/45
Study Group on Food and Agricultural Statistics in Europe Chairman: Mr. G. O'Hanlon (Ireland) Vice-Chairman: Mr. F. Ortina (Czechoslovakia)	19th session 17-20 July 1989	CES/AC.61/13 FAO/ECE:ESS(89)-6
Working Party on Transport Statistics Chairman: Mr. M. Ledru (France)	40th session 20-23 November 1989	CES/AC.62/49 TRANS/WP.6/117
Meeting on Statistics of Air Quality Chairman: Ms. I. Öhman (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Costantino (Italy)	4-6 September 1989	CES/AC.64/5
Meeting on Compendia of ECE Environment Statistics Chairman: Mr. A. Krakowsky (USSR)	20-23 March 1990	CES/AC.65/10
Meeting on the Use of Business Registers in National Statistical Offices Chairman: Mr. J.O. Thomsen (Norway) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Fischer (Czechoslovakia)	12-15 February 1990	CES/AC.66/14
Working Party on National Accounts and Balances Chairman: Ms. C.S. Carson (United States) Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Schlosser (Czechoslovakia)	14th session 16-19 May 1989	CES/WP.22/104
Seminar on the Relevance and Importance of Population and Housing Census Data Chairman: Mr. E. Hölder (Federal Republic of Germany) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Klinger (Hungary)	24-28 April 1989 Wiesbaden (Federal Republic of Germany)	CES/SEM.25/9
Seminar on Demographic Projections Chairman: Mr. A. Klinger (Hungary) Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. Cruijsen (Netherlands)	25-29 September 1989 Balatonöszöd (Hungary)	CES/SEM.26/3

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
COMMITTEE ON ELECTRIC POWER		
Committee on Electric Power	48th session 5-8 February 1990	ECE/EP/80
Chairman: Mr. I. Smirnov (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mrs. R. Kemper (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Meeting of Experts on Problems of Planning and Operating Large Power Systems	21st session 10-12 May 1989 Stockholm (Sweden)	EP/GE.2/34
Chairman: Mr. C. Olsson (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Vyskocil (Czechoslovakia)		
Meeting of Experts on Electric Power Stations	20th session 2-4 October 1989	EP/GE.3/34
Chairman: Mr. S. Trouchine (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. P. Reeh (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Meeting of Experts on the Relationship between Electricity and the Environment	18th session 4-6 October 1989	EP/GE.4/34
Chairman: Mr. G.W. Barrett (United Kingdom) Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. Kluge (German Democratic Republic)		
Seminar on New Developments in Geothermal Energy	22-25 May 1989 Ankara (Turkey)	EP/SEM.14/2
Chairman: Mr. O. Olcer (Turkey) Vice-Chairman: Mr. K. Dimitrov (Yugoslavia)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Rational Use of Electricity	24 April 1989	EP/SEM.15/AC/2
Chaired by the secretariat		
COMMITTEE ON GAS		
Committee on Gas	36th session 15-18 January 1990	ECE/GAS/97
Chairman: Mr. E. Johnsen (Norway) Vice-Chairman: Mr. L. Wappel (Hungary)		
Meeting of Experts on Gas Statistics	24th session 22-23 June 1989	GAS/GE.1/26
Chairman: Mr. W.F. Beems (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mrs. E. Selihova (USSR)		
Meeting of Experts on the Use and Distribution of Gas	20th session 6-8 November 1989	GAS/GE.2/34
Chairman: Mr. J. Bakker (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Vershinsky (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Experts on the Transport and Storage of Gas	20th session 8-10 November 1989	GAS/GE.3/34
Chairman: Mr. V. Sponer (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Ritzmann (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Meeting of Experts on Natural Gas Resources	12th session 20-22 June 1989	GAS/GE.4/24
Chairman: Mr. H.A. van Adrichem Boogaert (Netherlands)		
Symposium on Current Developments and Trends in Underground Storage of Natural Gas and Liquefied Petroleum Gas	29 May-2 June 1989 Paris (France)	GAS/SEM.13/2
Chairman: Mr. J. Colonna (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. F. Heinze (German Democratic Republic)		
COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING		
Committee on Housing, Building and Planning	50th session 12-15 September 1989	ECE/HBP/76
Chairman: Mr. J.M. Alves de Souza (Portugal) Vice-Chairman: Mr. S. Staynov (Bulgaria)		
Meeting of Experts on Human Settlements Problems in Southern Europe	15th meeting 4-6 October 1989 Toulouse (France)	HBP/GE.2/23
Chairman: Mr. J. Millet (France) Vice-Chairman: Ms. T. Günay (Turkey)		
Working Party on Building	19th session 7-9 June 1989	HBP/WP.2/30
Chairman: Mr. P. Bernard (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Čermák (Czechoslovakia)		
Working Party on Urban and Regional Planning and Research	1st session 22-27 May 1989 Lyon (France)	HBP/WP.4/2
Chairman: Mrs. Z. Nenova (Bulgaria) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. U. Christiansen (Denmark) Mr. J.-P. Lacaze (France)		
Ad hoc Meeting on the Planning for International Tourism: a Dialogue between the Planning and Operational Sectors	25-28 April 1989 Tihany (Hungary)	HBP/WP.4/AC.1/2
Chairman: Mr. L. Lacko (Hungary) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Cambau (France)		
Seminar on the Effectiveness of Settlement Planning	23-27 October 1989 London (United Kingdom)	HBP/SEM.43/2
Chairman: Mr. D. Stroud (United Kingdom) Vice-Chairman: Mr. E. Ikonomov (Bulgaria)		

Body and officers		Session	Symbol of report
INLAND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE			
Inland Transport Committee		51st (special) session	ECE/TRANS/78
Chairman:	Mr. C. König (German Democratic Republic)	2-10 October 1989	
Vice-Chairman:	Ms. A. Roy (France)	52nd session 29 January - 2 February 1990	ECE/TRANS/81
Working Party on Transport Trends and Economics		2nd session 11-13 October 1989	TRANS/WP.5/4
Chairman:	Mr. B. Liberadzki (Poland)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. D. Tsamboulas (Greece)		
Working Party on Transport Statistics		40th session 20-23 November 1989	TRANS/WP.6/117 CES/AC.62/49
Chairman:	Mr. M. Ledru (France)		
Working Party on the Transport of Perishable Foodstuffs		45th session 25-28 September 1989	TRANS/WP.11/180
Chairman:	Mr. M. de Clippel (Belgium)		
Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods		45th session 8-12 May 1989	TRANS/WP.15/111
Chairman:	Mr. E. Berson (France)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. J. Myhre (Norway)	46th (special) session 4-8 December 1989	TRANS/WP.15/113
Joint Meeting of the RID Safety Committee and the ECE Working Party on the Transport of Dangerous Goods		19-29 September 1989	TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/40
		6-16 March 1990 Berne (Switzerland)	TRANS/WP.15/AC.1/42
Chairman:	Mr. W. Visser (Netherlands)		
Vice-Chairman:	Mr. F. Lohrmann (German Democratic Republic)		
Working Party on Combined Transport		11th session 29 May-1 June 1989	TRANS/WP.24/43
Chairman:	Mr. E. Volk (Federal Republic of Germany)	12th (special) session 9-10 November 1989	TRANS/WP.24/45
Working Party on Customs Questions affecting Transport		66th session 11-14 September 1989	TRANS/WP.30/131
Chairman:	Mr. F. Hohrmann (Federal Republic of Germany)	67th session 15-19 January 1990	TRANS/WP.30/133

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Administrative Committee for the TIR Convention 1975	12th session 13-14 September 1989	TRANS/WP.30/AC.2/25
Chairman: Mr. R. Bellis (United Kingdom) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Skala (Czechoslovakia)		
Principal Working Party on Road Transport	81st session 6-8 November 1989	TRANS/SC1/338
Chairman: Mr. V. Malikhine (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Jinks (United Kingdom)		
Ad hoc Meeting on the Implementation of the European Agreement on Main International Traffic Arteries (AGR)	9th meeting 1-2 May 1989	TRANS/SC1/AC.5/18
Chairman: Mr. M. Gullon (Spain)		
Working Party on Road Traffic Safety	7th (special) session 22-25 May 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/15
Chairman: Mr. V. Carek (Czechoslovakia)		
Chairman: Mr. P. Löfmarck (Sweden)	8th (special) 18-21 September 1989 Brussels (Belgium)	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/17
Chairman: Mr. V. Carek (Czechoslovakia)	9th session 23-25 October 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/18
Chairman: Mr. G. Plomteux (Belgium)	10th (special) session 26 February - 2 March 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP.1/22
Working Party on the Construction of Vehicles	88th session 27-30 June 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/248
Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France)		
	89th session 10-13 October 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/253
	90th session 13-16 March 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/267
Meeting of Experts on Noise (GRB)	16th session 23-25 August 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRB/14
Chairman: Mr. R. Stamm (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Meeting of Experts on Lighting and Light-signalling (GRE)	22nd session 31 October- 3 November 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRE/22
Chairman: Mr. G. Meekel (Netherlands)		
	23rd session 9-12 April 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRE/23

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Meeting of Experts on Pollution and Energy (GRPE)	20th session 28-29 August 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRPE/20
Chairman: Mr. B. Gauvin (France)	21st session 10-12 January 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRPE/21
Meeting of Experts on Brakes and Running Gear (GRRF)	24th session 12-14 July 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRRF/24
Chairman: Mr. P. Murphy (United Kingdom)	25th session 26 February - 1 March 1990	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRRF/25
Meeting of Experts on General Safety Provisions (GRSG)	54th session 16-19 May 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/33
Chairman: Mr. A. Perea (Spain)	55th session 11-14 December 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSG/34
Meeting of Experts on Passive Safety (GRSP)	5th session 5-7 June 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSP/5
Chairman: Mr. C. Lomonaco (Italy)	6th session 27 November - 1 December 1989	TRANS/SC1/WP29/GRSP/6
Principal Working Party on Rail Transport	43rd session 23-25 October 1989	TRANS/SC2/171
Chairman: Mr. E. Sotnikov (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Dentato (Italy)		
Meeting of Experts on the Development of a European Railway Network	4th session 4-6 September 1989	TRANS/SC2/GE.1/8
Chairman: Mr. J.-P. Baumgartner (Switzerland)	5th session 19-20 March 1990	TRANS/SC2/GE.1/10
Principal Working Party on Inland Water Transport	33rd session 30-31 October 1989	TRANS/SC3/124
Chairman: Mr. M. Nemeč (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. Leonard (Belgium)		
Working Party on the Standardization of Technical Requirements for Vessels and of Ship's Papers	4th session 20-23 February 1990	TRANS/SC3/WP.1/8
Chairman: Mr. W. Dijkstra (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Anisin (USSR)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on the Standardization of Rules of the Road and Signs and Signals in Inland Navigation	3rd session 24-26 April 1989	TRANS/SC3/WP.2/6
Chairman: Mr. H. van Doorn (Netherlands)	4th session 3-5 April 1990	TRANS/SC3/WP.2/8
Seminar on the Impact of Increasing Dimensions of Loading Units on Combined Transport	13-16 November 1989	TRANS/SEM.7/4
Chairman: Mr. W. van Zijst (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. V. Medvedev (USSR)		
SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER PROBLEMS		
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems	3rd session 26 February - 2 March 1990	ECE/ENVWA/14
Chairman: Mr. W. Kakebeeke (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. B. Tchakalov (Bulgaria)		
Ad hoc Working Group to Elaborate a Draft Agreement on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context	2nd meeting 16-19 May 1989	ENVWA/AC.3/4
	3rd meeting 28 November - 1 December 1989 The Hague (Netherlands)	ENVWA/AC.3/6
Chairman: Mr. R.G. Connelly (Canada) Vice-Chairman: Mr. O. Kolbasov (USSR)		
	4th meeting 12-16 February 1990	ENVWA/AC.3/8
Ad hoc Meeting on the Code of Conduct on Accidental Pollution of Transboundary Inland Waters	12-16 June 1989	ENVWA/AC.4/2
Chairman: Mr. G. Hafner (Austria) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Kinkor (Czechoslovakia)		
Ad hoc Meeting on Environment and Economics	8-10 January 1990	ENVWA/AC.5/2
Chairman: Mr. W. Kakebeeke (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. G. Bager (Hungary)		
Meeting of Experts on Environmental Impact Assessment	7th meeting 27-28 November 1989 The Hague (Netherlands)	ENVWA/GE.1/3
Chairman: Mr. H. Brouwer (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Synowiec (Poland)		
Working Party on Air Pollution Problems	18th session 28-30 June 1989	ENVWA/WP.1/4
Chairman: Mr. Y. Tsatourov (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Apling (United Kingdom)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Working Party on Low- and Non-waste Technology and Re-utilization and Recycling of Wastes	8th session 10-12 January 1990	ENVWA/WP.2/3
Chairman: Mr. M. Rubin (United States) Vice-Chairman: Mr. Y. Arski (USSR)		
Working Party on Water Problems	3rd session 11-14 December 1989	ENVWA/WP.3/5
Chairman: Mr. H. van Schouwenburg (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. B. Natov (Bulgaria)		
Seminar on Improved Irrigation Practices to Preserve and Protect Water Resources and Increase Crop Yields	25-29 September 1989 Avignon (France)	ENVWA/SEM.2/2 AGRI/SEM.26/2
Chairman: Mr. G. Manuellan (France) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A.I. Golovanov (USSR)		
Seminar on Economic Implications of Low-waste Technology	16-19 October 1989 The Hague (Netherlands)	ENVWA/SEM.3/3
Chairman: Mr. F. van den Akker (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. M.N. Lukiantchikov (USSR)		
SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY		
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	17th session 18-22 September 1989	ECE/SC.TECH/37
Chairman: Mr. H. Eberling (German Democratic Republic) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Baumann (Switzerland)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Role of Forecasting in the Formulation of Science and Technology Policies	26-27 April 1989 Prague (Czechoslovakia)	SC.TECH/SEM.18/AC/2
Chairman: Mr. L. Kovacic (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. P. de la Saussay (France)		
STEEL COMMITTEE		
Steel Committee	57th session 25-27 October 1989	ECE/STEEL/67
Chairman: Mr. F. Müller (German Democratic Republic) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Signora (France)		
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on the Recuperation and Economic Utilization of By-products of the Iron and Steel Industry	2nd meeting 23-24 October 1989	STEEL/AC.11/4
Chairman: Mr. W. Plattner (Austria)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Ad hoc Meeting for the Study on Steel Product Quality and Maximum Utilization of Scrap	1st meeting 7-8 February 1990	STEEL/AC.12/2
Chairman: Mr. J. Šimánek (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Boutinet (France)		
Meeting of Experts on the Steel Market	28th session 22-23 June 1989	STEEL/GE.4/4
Chairman: Mr. J. Šimánek (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. F. Vlemmings (Netherlands)	9 February 1990	-
Meeting of Experts on Steel Statistics	18th session 19-20 June 1989	STEEL/GE.5/2
Chairman: Mr. E. Ruist (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Andrš (Czechoslovakia)		
Seminar on the Economic and Technical Aspects of the Modernization of the Steel Industry	15-19 May 1989 Kraków (Poland)	STEEL/SEM.15/3
Chairman: Mr. J. Janowski (Poland) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. V. Shtansky (USSR) Mr. K.-P. Ksinsik (Federal Republic of Germany)		
Preparatory Meeting for the Seminar on the Economic and Technical Aspects of the Manufacture and Application of Coated Steel Products	1st meeting 21-23 June 1989	STEEL/SEM.16/AC/2
	2nd meeting 6 February 1990	-
Chairman: Mrs. M.L. Pagani (Italy) Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. Sumann (Czechoslovakia)		
TIMBER COMMITTEE		
Timber Committee	47th session 9-13 October 1989	ECE/TIM/49
Chairman: Mr. H. van der Meiden (Netherlands) Vice-Chairman: Mr. E. Moskov (Bulgaria)		
Steering Committee of the Joint FAO/ECE/ILO Committee on Forest Working Techniques and Training of Forest Workers	9th session 20-21 May 1989 (Helsinki, Finland)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/AC.1/12
Chairman: Mr. S.A. Axelsson (Sweden) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Gadant (France)		
Seminar on the Training of Professional Forest Workers	22-26 May 1989 Jämsänkoski (Finland)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.29/2
Chairman: Mr. L. Hellman (Finland) Vice-Chairman: Mr. J. Gadant (France)		

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Seminar on the Impact of Mechanization of Forest Operations on the Soil	11-15 September 1989 Louvain-la-Neuve (Belgium)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.30/2
Chairman: Mr. P. Abeels (Belgium) Vice-Chairman: Mr. L. Kairiukstis (USSR)		
Seminar on the Mechanization of Harvesting Operations in Mountainous Terrain	20-24 November 1989 Antalya (Turkey)	TIM/EFC/WP.1/SEM.31/2
Chairman: Mr. E. Dönmez (Turkey) Vice-Chairmen: Mr. P. Efthymiou (Greece) Mr. J. Komorowski (Poland)		
Joint FAO/ECE Working Party on Forest Economics and Statistics	17th session 6-8 December 1989	TIM/EFC/WP.2/19
Chairman: Mr. N.A. Burdin (USSR) Vice-Chairman: Mr. H. Ollmann (Federal Republic of Germany)		
COMMITTEE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE		
Committee on the Development of Trade	38th session 4-8 December 1989	ECE/TRADE/167
Chairman: Mr. S. Stub (Norway) Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. Olechowski (Poland)		
Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures	30th session 18-22 September 1989	TRADE/WP.4/169
Chairman: Mr. V. David (Czechoslovakia)	31st session 13-16 March 1990	TRADE/WP.4/171
Meeting of Experts on Data Elements and Automatic Data Interchange	40th session 20-21 September 1989	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/17
Chairman: Mr. E. Dreyfous (France)	41st session 14-15 March 1990	TRADE/WP.4/GE.1/19
Meeting of Experts on Procedures and Documentation	40th session 19 September 1989	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/17
Chairman: Mr. R. Dale (United Kingdom)	41st session 13 March 1990	TRADE/WP.4/GE.2/19
Working Party on International Contract Practices in Industry	34th session 26-28 June 1989	TRADE/WP.5/30
Chairman: Mr. G. Willma (German Democratic Republic) Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Stein (United States)	35th session 27-29 November 1989	TRADE/WP.5/32

Body and officers	Session	Symbol of report
Seventh Seminar on East-West Trade Promotion, Marketing and Business Contacts - Industrial Equipment Leasing in East-West Trade Chairman: Mr. J. Monkiewicz (Poland) Vice-Chairman: Mr. M. Blasi (Italy)	13-15 September 1989	TRADE/SEM.9/2
ECE/UNDP Operational Projects		
Steering Committee of the Trans-European North-South Motorway Project (TEM) Chairman: Mr. B. Vasarhelyi (Hungary) Vice-Chairman: Mr. D. Yigit (Turkey)	17th session 30 May - 2 June 1989 Balatonfoldvar (Hungary)	TEM/26
Ad hoc Meeting on the Inter-country Project on International Co-operative Research on Low-calorie Solid Fuel Technology Chairman: Mr. M. Kosina (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Christov (Bulgaria)	5-6 June 1989 Brno (Czechoslovakia)	ECE/UNDP/LCT/28
Executive Technical Experts Committee (ETEC) Chairman: Mr. M. Kosina (Czechoslovakia) Vice-Chairman: Mr. C. Christov (Bulgaria)	9th meeting 7 June 1989 Brno (Czechoslovakia)	ECE/UNDP/LCT/29
Steering Committee of the Statistical Computing Project, Phase 2 (SCP-2) Chairman: Mr. E. Staub (Hungary)	3rd meeting 15-17 November 1989 Vienna (Austria)	ECE/UNDP/SCP-2/15
Task Force of the Statistical Computing Project, Phase 2 (SCP-2) Chairman: Mr. E. Staub (Hungary)	6th meeting 13-14 November 1989 Vienna (Austria)	ECE/UNDP/SCP-2/TF/6

ANNEX III

PUBLICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION

A. LIST OF MAJOR ECE STUDIES AND PUBLICATIONS, 1989/90

NOTE: The language versions issued are indicated by the following abbreviations: E, English; F, French; R, Russian; E/F, bilingual (English/French); E/F/R, trilingual (English/French/Russian); *, published for the United Nations by external publishers, as indicated.

GENERAL

Annual Report of the ECE to the ECOSOC, 22 April 1988 - 21 April 1989, Supplement No. 15 (E/1989/34-E/ECE/1196 and Add.1) E F R

Economic Survey of Europe in 1988-1989 (Sales No. 99.II.E.1) E F R

Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 40 (Pergamon Press)

No. 4: Long-term Prospects in ECE Countries: National and International Aspects E *

Economic Bulletin for Europe, Vol. 41 (ECE/TRADE(XXXVIII)/1) (Sales No. 89.II.E.26) E F R

Economic Studies

No. 1: Economic Reforms in the European Centrally Planned Economies (ADECO) E *

Compendium of resolutions and decisions of the Economic Commission for Europe, Addendum 1: 1973-1989 (E/ECE/836/Add.1) E F R

AGRICULTURE

Prices of Agricultural Products and Selected Inputs in Europe and North America, 1987/88: Annual ECE/FAO Price Review No. 38 (ECE/AGRI/102) (Sales No. 89.II.E.13) E F R

Agricultural Review for Europe No. 31, 1987 and 1988: Vol. I: General Review (ECE/AGRI/103, Vol. I) (Sales No. 89.II.E.15); Vol. II: Agricultural Trade (ECE/AGRI/103, Vol. II) (Sales No. 89.II.E.16); Vol. III: The Grain Market (ECE/AGRI/103, Vol. III) (Sales No. 89.II.E.17); Vol. IV: The Livestock and Meat Market (ECE/AGRI/103, Vol. IV) (Sales No. 89.II.E.14); Vol. V: The Milk and Dairy Products Market (ECE/AGRI/103, Vol. V) (Sales No. 89.II.E.18); Vol. VI: The Egg Market (ECE/AGRI/103, Vol. VI) (Sales No. 89.II.E.19) E F R

Technical and Economic Factors Influencing the Productivity of Grain Crops and the Stability of Grain Yields (ECE/AGRI/104) E F R

Output and Inputs in Agriculture of Countries in the ECE Region, 1980-1987 (ECE/AGRI/108) E F R

Prices of Agricultural Products and Selected Inputs in Europe and North America, 1988/89: Annual ECE/FAO Price Review No. 39 (ECE/AGRI/109) (Sales No. 90.II.E.5) E F R

The Unloading, Transport and Distribution of Silage from Horizontal Silos: AGRI/MECH Report No. 122 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/99) E F R

Evaluation of the Energy Efficiency of Mechanization of Technological Processes in Livestock Production: AGRI/MECH Report No. 123 (FAO/ECE/AGRI/WP.2/100) E F R

CHEMICALS

Annual Review of the Chemical Industry, 1987 (ECE/CHEM/71) (Sales No. 89.II.E.2) E F R

Membrane Technology in the Chemical Industry (ECE/CHEM/72) (Sales No. 89.II.E.28) E F R

ENERGY

ECE Energy Series:

No. 1: Energy Efficiency in European Industry (Sales No. GV.E.88.0.8) E *

No. 2: Energy Balances for Europe and North America, 1970-2000 (Sales No. GV.E.88.0.9) E *

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe, 1987, Vol. XX (Sales No. 89.II.E.10) E/F/R

Annual Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe, 1988, Vol. XXIII (Sales No. 89.II.E.4) E/F/R

Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe, 1988, Vol. XXXIV (Sales No. 89.II.E.11) E/F/R

Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics for Europe, 1988, Vol. XXXIV (Sales No. 89.II.E.9) E/F/R

ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Annual Review of Engineering Industries and Automation, 1988: Vol. I (ECE/ENG.AUT/39, Vol. I) (Sales No. 89.II.E.27);	E F R
Vol. II (ECE/ENG.AUT/39, Vol. II) (Sales No. 89.II.E.27)	E/F/R
The Working Party's First Decade (ECE/ENG.AUT/41)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products, 1987 (Sales No. 89.II.E.5)	E/F/R

ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER PROBLEMS

Water Use and Water-pollution Control: Trends, Policies, Prospects (ECE/ENVWA/10)	E F R
Charter on Ground-water Management (ECE/ENVWA/12-E/ECE/1197) (Sales No. 89.II.E.21)	E F R
Protocol to the 1979 Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution concerning the Control of Emissions of Nitrogen Oxides or their Transboundary Fluxes (ECE/EB.AIR/21)	E/F/R
Air Pollution Studies 5: The State of Transboundary Air Pollution: Effects and Control - Report prepared within the framework of the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution (ECE/EB.AIR/22) (Sales No. 89.II.E.25)	E F R

HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Housing and Building Statistics for Europe, 1988, Vol. XXXII (Sales No. 89.II.E.12)	E/F/R

STANDARDIZATION

ECE Standardization List (ECE/STAND/20/Rev.2)	E F R

STATISTICS

Statistical Indicators of Short-term Economic Changes in ECE Countries, 1989, Vol. XXXI, Nos. 5-12	E only

Statistical Indicators of Short-term Economic Changes in ECE Countries, 1990, Vol. XXXII, Nos.1-4	E only

Periodic Bulletins

Statistical Journal, Vol. 6, No. 1 (North Holland)	E *
Statistical Journal, Vol. 6, Nos. 2-3 (International Organizations Services, B.V.)	E *

STEEL

The Importance of the Iron and Steel Industry for the Economic Activity of ECE Member Countries (ECE/STEEL/64) (Sales No. 89.II.E.22)	E F R
The Steel Market in 1988 (ECE/STEEL/66) (Sales No. 89.II.E.23)	E F R
Iron and Steel Scrap: Its Significance and Influence on Further Developments in the Iron and Steel Industries - Fourth updating (ECE/STEEL/69)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Statistics of World Trade in Steel, 1988 (Sales No. 89.II.E.8)	E/F/R
Annual Bulletin of Steel Statistics for Europe, 1988, Vol. XVI (Sales No. 89.II.E.7)	E/F/R

TIMBER

ECE Recommended Standards for Stress Grading and Finger-jointing of Structural Coniferous Sawn Timber (ECE/TIM/45)	E F R
Forest Decline in Europe Attributed to Air Pollutants (data to 1987) (ECE/TIM/46)	E F R
Outlook for the Forest and Forest Products Sector of the USSR (ECE/TIM/48) (Sales No. 89.II.E.24)	E F R
Forest Decline Attributed to Air Pollutants in Europe in 1988 (ECE/TIM/50)	E F R

Periodic Bulletins

Timber Bulletin, Vol. XLII

No. 3: Monthly Prices for Forest Products	E/F
No. 4: Forest Products Statistics, 1984-1988	E/F

No. 5: Annual Forest Products Market Review	E F R
No. 6: Forest Products Trade Flow Data, 1987-1988	E/F
No. 7: Monthly Prices for Forest Products	E/F
No. 8: Forest Products Markets in 1989 and Prospects for 1990	E/F
No. 9: Forest Products Statistics, 1984 - June 1989	E/F

Timber Bulletin, Vol. XLIII

No. 1: The ECE Timber Committee Yearbook, 1989	E F R

TRADE

East-West Joint Ventures: Contracts - Volume I of Guide on Legal Aspects of New Forms of Industrial Co-operation (ECE/TRADE/165) (Sales No. 88.II.E.30)	E F R
Layout Key for Standard Consignment Instructions - Recommendation No. 22, adopted by the Working Party on Facilitation of International Trade Procedures (ECE/TRADE/168)	E F R

TRANSPORT

Convention on Civil Liability for Damage Caused during Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road, Rail and Inland Navigation Vessels (CRTD) (ECE/TRANS/79)	E/F/R
European Agreement concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) and Protocol of Signature, done at Geneva on 30 September 1957 - Volume II: Annex B with amendments thereto up to 1 January 1990 (ECE/TRANS/80, Vol. II) (Sales No. 89.VIII.2)	E F R
TIR Manual, 1988 (ECE/TRANS/TIR/1) (Sales No. 88.VIII.1)	E F

Periodic Bulletins

Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe, 1987, Vol. XXXIX (Sales No. 88.II.E.12)	E/F/R
Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe, 1988, Vol. XXXV (Sales No. 89.II.E.3)	E/F/R

B. LIST OF DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED TO THE COMMISSION AT ITS FORTY-FIFTH SESSION

Provisional agenda	E/ECE/1198 + Corr.1
The Commission's activities and implementation of priorities in 1989	/1199
Resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly	/1200
Commission's contribution to the United Nations programmes designed to assist developing countries	/1201
Co-operation with other international organizations	/1202
Concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work	/1203
Implications of the provisions of the Concluding Documents of the Madrid Meeting 1980 and the Vienna Meeting 1986 of Representatives of the Participating States of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) for the further work of the Economic Commission for Europe	/1204 + Add.1
Development of trade and industrial co-operation	/1205
Work of the Sessional Committee	/1206 + Corr.1
Climate change	/1207
Statistical activities	/1208
Co-operation in the field of energy	/1209
Earthquake prediction	/1210
The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development	/1211
The Commission's contribution to the follow-up of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women	/1212
Co-operation in the field of environmental protection and water resources	/1213 + Add.1
Air pollution	/1214
Evolution in the dimensions of loading units	/1215
EDIFACT	/1216
Co-operation in the field of transport	/1217
Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE	/1218
Standardization and related activities	/1219
Engineering industries and automation	/1220

Medium and long-term economic prospects and issues: Analysis of economic growth conditions	E/ECE/1221
Programme of work for 1990-1994	/1222
Work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission	/1223 + Add.1

Reports of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies of the Commission

Committee on Agricultural Problems	ECE/AGRI/107
Chemical Industry Committee	ECE/CHEM/74 + Corr.1
Coal Committee	ECE/COAL/119
Conference of European Statisticians	ECE/CES/34
Committee on Electric Power	ECE/EP/80
Committee on Gas	ECE/GAS/97
Committee on Housing, Building and planning	ECE/HBP/76
Inland Transport Committee	ECE/TRANS/78 ECE/TRANS/81 + Add.1
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems	ECE/ENVWA/14
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology	ECE/SC.TECH./37
Steel Committee	ECE/STEEL/67
Timber Committee	ECE/TIM/49
Committee on the Development of Trade	ECE/TRADE/167

Reports of other subsidiary bodies

Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation	ECE/ENG.AUT/42

ANNEX IV

PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 1990-1994

Introduction

The programme of work is divided into the following programme categories:

01 - Policy and co-ordination of the work of the Commission

- 01 (a) - Engineering industries and automation
- 01 (b) - General energy
- 01 (c) - Standardization and related activities

02 - Agriculture

03 - Chemicals

04 - Coal

05 - Environmental and water problems

06 - Electric power

07 - Gas

08 - Housing, building and planning

09 - Inland transport

10 - Science and technology

11 - Economic plans, programmes and perspectives

12 - Statistics

13 - Steel

14 - Timber

15 - Trade

PROGRAMME 01. - POLICY AND CO-ORDINATION OF THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE

Authority: Terms of reference of the Commission; relevant resolutions and other decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Commission.

SUB-PROGRAMME 01.1: ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE AND PROGRAMME OF WORK AND PRIORITIES

01.1.1 Review and guidance of the activities of the Commission as a whole: evaluation, co-ordination and formulation of the programme of work

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will consider its work as a whole; review and evaluate its own activity as well as that of its subsidiary bodies; guide the policy orientation, co-ordination and planning of the work carried out by the subsidiary bodies under its auspices; and formulate and approve its programme of work.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission performs this function with the assistance of its Sessional Committee as appropriate, by considering at its annual sessions the reports of its subsidiary bodies on their work and the Executive Secretary's reports on the implementation of its relevant resolutions and decisions. The Commission considers and approves annually its programme of work for the following year and endorses in principle, subject to review at the following session, its long-term programme of work covering the next five years. The policy guidance given by the Commission, including measures for co-ordination, concentration and integration of all activities carried out under the Commission's auspices, is embodied in its resolutions and other decisions to be implemented, as appropriate, by member Governments, by the Commission's subsidiary bodies and by its secretariat.

Duration: Continuing.

01.1.2 The work and future activities of the Commission

Description: At its forty-fifth session the Commission, in its resolution 1 (45), called upon the member Governments to continue to take full advantage of the potential of the ECE as an instrument for dialogue and for strengthening economic relations and multilateral co-operation in the region; it considered in this connection that full respect for the principles guiding relations among States set out in the Final Act of the CSCE, as well as the implementation of all the provisions of that Final Act and those contained in the Madrid and Vienna Concluding Documents, were an essential basis for the development of economic co-operation among them, and reaffirmed that such co-operation contributed to the reinforcement of peace and security in Europe and in the world as a whole. It recalled that the Vienna Concluding Document contains provisions which carry implications for the future activities of the Commission, and requested its subsidiary bodies to continue to take into account, for their work, the pertinent provisions of the above-mentioned documents which called for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE. It expressed its desire that the high-level meeting of Representatives of Participating States of the CSCE possibly to be convened in late 1990 will give a positive impetus for developing co-operation in the region.

In paragraph 7 of this resolution the Commission called upon its subsidiary bodies to pay special attention, when reviewing and carrying out their programmes of work, to the interests of member countries which are developing from an economic point of view, noting that some such countries are faced with serious structural and economic constraints.

In paragraph 11 of this resolution, the Commission expressed its readiness to continue involving business and scientific circles and organizing round table discussions on actual problems of the region.

In the same resolution, the Commission approved its programme of work for 1990/91 and endorsed in principle, subject to review at its forty-sixth session, its long-term programme of work for 1990-1994, and requested its subsidiary bodies, as well as the Executive Secretary, to take into account in their work and when reviewing their respective programmes this resolution, the decisions of the Commission and the points raised by delegations and reported in the relevant passages of the report of the forty-fifth session in as much as they are addressed therein.

Work to be undertaken: The provisions of resolution 1 (45) and the other decisions adopted by the Commission at its forty-fifth session will be drawn to the attention of the pertinent subsidiary bodies of the Commission for appropriate action, and reports on the implementation of these decisions will be prepared for consideration by the Commission at its forty-sixth session.

Duration: One year (1990/91)

01.1.3. The activities of the Economic Commission for Europe

Description: The Commission, in its decision A (45), stressed the importance of the political and economic reforms, and the profound and rapid changes taking place in countries members of ECE. It considered that the process of economic reform and structural adjustment would improve the conditions for closer co-operation and contribute to a more open world trade system, and wished to create favourable conditions for a harmonious development and diversification of the economic relations among the countries of the region. It was conscious of the need for co-ordination among existing international economic institutions, and of the limited resources available for ECE work within the UN regular budget and the need to make most effective use of the available staff and financial resources.

Work to be undertaken: The Commission set up a Special Working Group (SWG):

(a) to define priority areas, according to prevailing needs and circumstances, both at general and sectoral levels, for future action by the ECE, taking into account its fields of competence, the activities of other international institutions and the improvement of conditions for closer co-operation arising from recent changes in the region including the economic reforms in countries members of the ECE, with continued attention to the needs and constraints faced by the member countries which are developing from the economic point of view;

(b) to develop practical measures in these priority areas in order to improve the usefulness of the work undertaken by the ECE in accordance with the invitation addressed by the Bonn Conference on Economic Co-operation in Europe to the ECE;

(c) to elaborate, in sectors not identified as priorities, broad outlines of the work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies which are relevant to promoting the process of economic reform and to integrating the economies in transition with the global economy;

(d) to redefine, where appropriate, the mandates of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and to make recommendations for the strengthening, the elimination, merging or creation of Principal Subsidiary Bodies, (which may have implications for the organization of the secretariat), bearing in mind the needs of member States in areas of work of regional interest and mutual advantage;

(e) to make relevant recommendations for decision to a resumed session of the forty-fifth annual session of the ECE to be convened in December 1990.

The Executive Secretary was requested to provide to the SWG all the necessary information, technical and administrative assistance and advice on relevant matters, including financial implications. The Commission requested its Principal Subsidiary Bodies to co-operate fully with the SWG.

Duration: 1990/1991

01.1.4. Concentration and integration of the programme of work of the Commission

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will examine its programmes of work with a view to their concentration and integration, and will decide on which aspect of the programmes of work will be considered in greater detail at the following session.

Work to be undertaken: In paragraph 6 of its resolution 1 (45), the Commission reaffirmed its determination to implement the provisions and proposals contained in the Supplementary Report adopted at its special session in November 1987 (E/ECE/1150/Rev.1), as agreed in decision A (1987-S), and called upon its subsidiary bodies to pay due attention to it when reviewing and carrying out their programmes.

Duration: Continuing.

01.1.5 Economic co-operation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE

Description: The Commission and its Principal Subsidiary Bodies pay particular attention to projects and activities of interest to the Mediterranean countries of the ECE region, bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the Final Act and other Concluding Documents of the CSCE. The Executive Secretary co-operates with the secretariats of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and the Economic Commission for Africa and other relevant United Nations bodies and pursues contacts with all Mediterranean countries not members of the Commission, on subjects within the competence of the ECE of common interest to the Mediterranean countries; the Commission's subsidiary bodies identify areas of interest, particularly in the field of transport, for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of over-all ECE activities and the Commission's programme of work.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision L (45) the Commission requested the Executive Secretary and its subsidiary bodies to continue the work described above, and also:

(a) Called upon the Executive Secretary, after consultations with the interested Governments, to propose to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies for consideration to undertake action-oriented studies in the areas of co-operation already identified in his report E/ECE/1218 including in the field of the protection of the environment in the Mediterranean, and to make proposals to the relevant Principal Subsidiary Bodies for consideration in their programme of work, taking all necessary measures to avoid duplication of work with other international organizations,

(b) Expressed satisfaction at the activities carried out by the Transport Study Centre for the Eastern Mediterranean in Volos (Greece), the Transport Study Centre for the Western Mediterranean in Barcelona (Spain), and the Transport Training Centre in Istanbul (Turkey), confirming that they are of practical value not only for transport issues in the Mediterranean, but for the work of the Inland Transport Committee in general and invited the Committee to take full advantage of the work done by the Centres, inter alia by continuing its co-operation with the Mediterranean Transport Centres in programmes of common interest;

(c) It recalled resolution 1988/169 of the Economic and Social Council and the pertinent decisions of the Commission for conferring United Nations status on the above-mentioned Centres

and invited the Executive Secretary to pursue his efforts for the implementation of that resolution and to report thereon at the fifty-third session of the Inland Transport Committee;

(d) It recommended to its subsidiary bodies to continue their efforts in identifying areas of interest for economic co-operation in the Mediterranean within the framework of overall activities and its programme of work, particularly in the light of recent developments in the ECE region;

(e) In paragraph 4 of resolution 1 (45) the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to accept the invitation to attend the CSCE Meeting on the Mediterranean in Palma de Mallorca in September/October 1990, and to contribute, within the existing resources and drawing on ECE experience, to this meeting, which will consider ways and means of further enhancing various aspects of co-operation including the protection and improvement of Mediterranean ecosystems.

Duration: Continuing

SUB-PROGRAMME 01.2: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS, PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS IN THE ECE REGION

01.2.1. Review of economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review economic developments, problems and prospects in the ECE region.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The annual economic survey, economic bulletin and other special studies and statistical bulletins prepared and published by the secretariat are made available to the Commission for this annual review.

Duration: Continuing

01.2.2. Population

Description: In accordance with the provisions of decision G (40), the Executive Secretary carries out work in the field of population, within existing resources, and maintains collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) for the implementation of the relevant recommendations of regional meetings of experts on population convened periodically, but not more than every two years, in co-operation with UNFPA. These meetings aim to provide consultations amongst Governments and the dissemination and exchange of information on population problems and policies in the ECE region.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: Collaboration with UNFPA is maintained through projects dealing, respectively, with economic and social implications of aging, population and development in southern Europe, integration of population and socio-economic policies and promotion of fertility and family surveys in the ECE region. Funding for these projects is provided by UNFPA.

Duration: Continuing.

01.2.3. The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe

Description: Taking into account the fact that the recent and current developments in Europe modify the characteristics and functioning of the societies and economies of countries of the region, the Commission, in its decision D (45), considered that in view of its composition and the nature of the co-operation which it implements it has a role to play in assisting the transition to market economies.

Work to be undertaken: In decision D (45) the Commission

(a) Requested the Executive Secretary to prepare, in consultations with member States, taking due account of work being done or planned by other international organizations, a short note concerning the transition towards market economies which presents a number of practical workshop themes which characterize different aspects of this process.

(b) Requested the Senior Economic Advisers to discuss on the basis of the secretariat note practical themes for workshops that may be proposed to the Principal Subsidiary Bodies concerned, using whenever possible an inter-disciplinary approach. They will strive to avoid any duplication with current or planned work in other international institutions, in particular the OECD and the International Chamber of Commerce.

(c) Requested those Principal Subsidiary Bodies designated by the Senior Economic Advisers to contribute to the preparation for practical workshops on the transition to market economies, to be held under the auspices of the Senior Economic Advisers. The Principal Subsidiary Bodies will take note of various national experiences and different concepts of reform, the factors which influence these countries and the pace of reform implementation. They will strive to seek ways to facilitate co-operation in the field of economic policies.

(d) Requested the Executive Secretary to ensure that special attention be given to close collaboration with the European Community and international institutions dealing with this issue, among others IMF, IBRD, EBRD and in particular OECD, in order to avoid duplication of effort, and bearing in mind the fields where ECE has particular competence.

SUB-PROGRAMME 01.3: RESOLUTIONS BEARING ON THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION ADOPTED BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

01.3.1 Review and follow-up of resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly bearing on the work of the Commission

Description: At its annual sessions, the Commission will review the resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly which have a bearing on its work and will decide on the action to be taken by it in the light of the provisions of those resolutions and decisions.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review on the basis of the Executive Secretary's note in which he brings to the Commission's attention the resolutions and decisions bearing on the work of the Commission which were adopted by the Economic and Social Council and by the General Assembly during the period since the previous session of the Commission, and the relevant work under way.

Duration: Continuing

01.3.2 The Commission's contribution to the follow-up of the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women

Description: In accordance with decision J (40), and taking into consideration the results of the 1985 World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women, the Executive Secretary will continue to assess developments with respect to the economic role of women in the ECE region in conjunction with other research activities of the secretariat, taking into account the roles and responsibilities of the regional commissions in developing and implementing the system-wide, medium-term plan for women and development and the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

Work accomplished: The secretariat has undertaken a time use study of women in the ECE region, with the financial support of INSTRAW. A CES-INSTRAW Joint Meeting on Statistics of Women was held in November 1989 under the auspices of the Conference of European Statisticians. The regional commissions, including ECE, have agreed to undertake parallel activities in the field of women in co-operation with INSTRAW.

Work to be undertaken: In accordance with decision H (44) the secretariat will concentrate on an inventory of the scope and content of time-use/time-budget questionnaires and of time-use studies, and will make this data available to member countries.

Duration: Continuing

01.3.3. The Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development

Description: The Commission welcomed General Assembly resolution 44/227 on the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 42/186 on the Environmental Perspective to the Year 2000 and Beyond and 42/187 on the World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED), as well as General Assembly resolution 44/288 on the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development.

Work accomplished: The secretariat co-operated with the Norwegian Government in the preparations for the regional conference at ministerial level (Bergen, 8-16 May 1990) to review progress in the follow-up of selected aspects of the Report of the WCED.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision H (45) the Commission:

(a) Called upon its subsidiary bodies to actively promote sustainable development as a guiding principle for all relevant activities of the ECE, and welcomed the progress made in developing sectoral and interdisciplinary activities contributing to sustainable development.

(b) Invited the Executive Secretary to submit the relevant agreed results of the Bergen Conference to the appropriate Principal Subsidiary Bodies with a view to consideration of the inclusion of possible new sectoral and cross-sectoral activities in the work programmes of the ECE.

(c) Endorsed the continuation of the intersectoral co-operation between the Senior Economic Advisers and the Senior Advisers on Environmental and Water Problems in the form of a Joint Working Group on Environment and Economics, to consider relevant parts of the outcome of the Bergen Conference, taking into account the recommendations of the Ad hoc Meeting on Environment and Economics (8-10 January 1990), and invited the other Principal Subsidiary Bodies to co-operate with the Joint Working Group.

(d) Considered that the Ministerial Declaration, the Agenda for Action and the report of the Bergen Conference should constitute a major substantive contribution by the ECE region as such to the 1992 Conference.

(e) Invited the Executive Secretary to continue to bring to the attention of the Executive Secretaries of the other regional commissions the activities undertaken by ECE aimed at contributing to sustainable development and strengthening of international co-operation in this field, and in particular the results of the Bergen Conference.

Duration: Five years (1988-1992)

01.3.4 Climate change

Description: In its resolution 43/53 the General Assembly recognized climate change as a common concern of mankind, and called on all relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to support the work of the joint WMO/UNEP Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Work to be undertaken: In its decision E (45) the Commission welcomed the above resolution, as well as Assembly resolution 44/207, and expressed satisfaction that the substantive issues related to climate change had been taken up by a number of Principal Subsidiary Bodies including the Senior Advisers on Energy and the Committees on Electric Power, Coal and Gas. It requested the Executive Secretary to continue the assessment of the Commission's programmes, activities and discussions bearing on the relationship of human activities and the climate, taking also into account the work and studies of the IPCC, OECD and IAEA.

Duration: Two years (1989/91)

01.3.5. ECE's contribution to the implementation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, including Earthquake Prediction

Description: In its resolution 44/236, the General Assembly called upon the regional commissions to play an active role in implementing the activities of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.

Work to be undertaken: In its decision G (45) the Commission recalled the conclusions of the ECE Seminar on the Prediction of Earthquakes held in Lisbon (Portugal) in 1988 as well as its decision F (44), and:

(a) Urged the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology to take a final decision on the convening in 1990 of an ad hoc expert group meeting to formulate proposals on the follow-up action to the Lisbon Seminar;

(b) Welcomed the willingness of the Government of the USSR to submit to the next session of the Senior Advisers a proposal on convening an international symposium on earthquake prediction, monitoring facilities and techniques to promote joint efforts in a co-ordinated way in this area;

(c) Called upon the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning to review its programme of work to identify ways in which it could undertake activities relevant to the tasks of the Decade, in close liaison with the IDNDR Secretariat;

(d) Urged the Senior Advisers on Science and Technology to consider the adequacy of existing intergovernmental co-operation in the ECE region on earthquake prediction.

Duration: Two years (1990-1992)

SUB-PROGRAMME 01.4: CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

01.4.1. Review of the Commission's co-operation with other United Nations bodies

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities in support of and its contribution to other United Nations programmes, especially those of UNCTAD, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA and INSTRAW, as well as of the other regional commissions. It will also consider matters relating to its co-operation with other United Nations bodies including the specialized agencies such as ILO, FAO, UNESCO, WHO and UNIDO, as well as IAEA. Special attention will be paid to problems of the member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view

as part of the Commission's contribution to the global programmes and objectives of the United Nations aiming at economic development.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission carries out this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the participation of such organizations and programmes in the Commission's work; on the Commission's own contribution to the programmes of these organizations; and on the secretariat's co-operation with the secretariats of these organizations, including the secretariats of the other regional commissions.

Duration: Continuing

01.4.2. Review of the Commission's co-operation with other international organizations

Description: At its annual sessions the Commission will review its activities related to co-operation with other intergovernmental organizations such as the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance and the European Community, and with international non-governmental organizations participating in the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

Work accomplished and to be undertaken: The Commission undertakes this review annually on the basis of the Executive Secretary's report on the relevant activities arising out of the participation of such organizations and their secretariats in, and the contribution they make to, the work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies.

Duration: Continuing

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PROGRAMME 01(a) - ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES AND AUTOMATION

Authority: Programme of work of the Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation, approved by the Working Party at its tenth session (ECE/ENG.AUT/42, paras. 51-52 and Annex I)

Sub-programme 01(a).1: Medium- and long-term trends and prospects in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

01(a).1.1 Medium- and long-term assessment of engineering industries within national, regional and global economies

Sub-programme 01(a).2: Current developments and prospects in the engineering industries and automation, including appropriate aspects of international trade

Programme elements

01(a).2.1 Current developments and prospects in the engineering industries and automation, including appropriate aspects of international trade in this sector

Sub-programme 01(a).3: Selected issues in the engineering industries and in automation

Programme elements

01(a).3.1 Food-processing machinery including packaging techniques
01(a).3.2 Rehabilitation engineering
01(a).3.3 New materials and their application in engineering industries

Sub-programme 01(a).4: Environmental and resource-saving problems

Programme elements

01(a).4.1 Air pollution control in engineering industries
01(a).4.2 Low-waste technologies in engineering industries

Sub-programme 01(a).5: Statistics in engineering industries and automation

Programme elements

01(a).5.1 Development of internationally comparable statistics
01(a).5.2 Publication of the Bulletin of Statistics on World Trade in Engineering Products

PROGRAMME 01(b) - GENERAL ENERGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Energy, approved by the Senior Advisers at their sixth session (ECE/ENERGY/13, paras. 33-37 and Annex I)

Sub-programme 01(b).1: Energy programmes, policies and prospects

Programme elements

01(b).1.1 National energy programmes, policies and prospects
01(b).1.2 Selected general energy issues
01(b).1.3 Overview of energy activities in ECE

Sub-programme 01(b).2: Energy demand and supply

Programme elements

01(b).2.1 Significant new developments affecting energy demand and supply in the short and medium run
01(b).2.2 New and renewable sources of energy
01(b).2.3 End-use demand analysis, prospects and policies

Sub-programme 01(b).3: Energy trade and co-operation

Programme elements

01(b).3.1 Developments, policies and prospects of energy trade and co-operation
01(b).3.2 Identification and analysis of energy projects suitable for international co-operation

Sub-programme 01(b).4 Energy conservation

Programme elements

01(b).4.1 Energy conservation developments, policies and prospects in the region
01(b).4.2 Specific measures for energy conservation

Sub-programme 01(b).5: General energy statistics

Programme elements

01(b).5.1 Support for the publication of the Annual Bulletin of General Energy Statistics for Europe
01(b).5.2 Comprehensive ECE energy demand/supply balances for past and future years, and ECE energy data bank

PROGRAMME 01(c) - STANDARDIZATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Authority: Programme of work of the Meetings of Government Officials Responsible for Standardization Policies, approved by the Tenth Meeting of Government Officials (ECE/STAND/30, paras. 46-51 and Annex).

Sub-programme 01(c).1: Co-ordination

Programme elements

- 01(c).1.1 Identification of problems
- 01(c).1.2 Regular guidance for programmes of work for international standardization through identification of sectors which are of interest to member Governments
- 01(c).1.3 Preparation and implementation of recommendations

Sub-programme 01(c).2: Harmonization

Programme elements

- 01(c).2.1 Review of developments, prospects and problems at the international, regional and national levels
- 01(c).2.2 Measures to facilitate the implementation of standards and technical regulations
- 01(c).2.3 Approval of definitions of terms used internationally in the fields of standardization and related activities
- 01(c).2.4 Presentation of ECE recommended standards and harmonized technical regulations
- 01(c).2.5 Preparation and implementation of recommendations

Sub-programme 01(c).3: Certification

Programme elements

- 01(c).3.1 Identification of problems
- 01(c).3.2 Collection and dissemination of information on international, regional and national certification activities and agreements
- 01(c).3.3 Measures to achieve mutual confidence in the technical competence and reliability of national certification systems
- 01(c).3.4 Promotion of international certification systems and arrangements

Sub-programme 01(c).4: Testing

Programme elements

- 01(c).4.1 Collection and dissemination of information on international, regional and national systems and arrangements on testing, laboratory accreditation and recognition of test results
- 01(c).4.2 Establishment of normative documents related to testing activities and laboratory accreditation
- 01(c).4.3 Identification of sectors which could lend themselves to priority preparation of multilateral or bilateral agreements for the recognition of test results and of recommendations to that effect to interested Governments and bodies
- 01(c).4.4 Aspects of metrology relevant to testing activities

PROGRAMME 02 - AGRICULTURE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Agricultural Problems, approved by the Committee at its forty-first session (ECE/AGRI 107, paras. 75-77 and Annex I)

Sub-programme 02.1: Medium- and long-term trends and prospects in agriculture

Programme elements

02.1.1 Periodic review of selected long-term developments in agriculture

Sub-programme 02.2: Current developments and short-term prospects in agriculture, including international trade

Programme elements

02.2.1 Review of current developments in agricultural markets and trade

02.2.2 Commodity reports of special interest to the member countries which are developing from the economic point of view

02.2.3 Standardization in the food and agriculture sector

02.2.4 Product quality in the agri-food sector

Sub-programme 02.3: Economic and technological issues in agriculture

Programme elements

02.3.1 Agrarian structure and farm rationalization

02.3.2 Agricultural mechanization

02.3.3 Land use, soil fertility, water and crops

02.3.4 Animal husbandry and feedingstuffs

02.3.5 Agriculture and environment

Sub-programme 02.4: Marketing and processing issues of agricultural produce and their influence on agriculture

Programme elements

02.4.1 Marketing of agricultural products

02.4.2 Processing of agricultural products

Sub-programme 02.5: Food and agricultural statistics

Programme element

02.5.1 Harmonization of food and agricultural statistics

PROGRAMME 03 - CHEMICALS

Authority: Programme of work of the Chemical Industry Committee, approved by the Committee at its twenty-second session (ECE/CHEM/74, paras. 49-54 and Annex I).

Sub-programme 03.1: Long- and medium-term trends and prospects in the chemical industry

Currently no programme elements under this sub-programme

Sub-programme 03.2: Current developments and prospects in the chemical industry, including international trade

Programme elements

03.2.1 Annual Review of the Chemical Industry
03.2.2 Market trends and outlook for selected chemical products
03.2.3 Studies of national developments in the chemical industry

Sub-programme 03.3: Economic and technological issues in the chemical industry

Programme elements

03.3.1 Substitutes for tripolyphosphate in detergents
03.3.2 Engineering plastics
03.3.3 Possibilities and limitations of east-west joint ventures in the chemical industry

Sub-programme 03.4: Environmental and resource issues in the chemical industry

Programme elements

03.4.1 The rational use of water and its treatment in the chemical industry
03.4.2 The role of the chemical industry in environmental protection
03.4.3 Recycling of plastics in ECE member countries

Sub-programme 03.5: Statistics and information on the chemical industry

Programme elements

03.5.1 Development of internationally comparable statistics, including those of specialized products
03.5.2 Publication of the Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products

PROGRAMME 04 - COAL

Authority: Programme of work of the Coal Committee, approved by the Committee at its eighty-fifth session (ECE/COAL/119, paras. 57-62 and Annex I).

Sub-programme 04.1: Medium and long-term prospects

Programme elements

- 04.1.1 Prospects for the coal industry in the ECE region
- 04.1.2 World coal trade up to the year 2000, including the prospects for coking coal

Sub-programme 04.2: Current developments, including international coal trade and statistics

Programme elements

- 04.2.1 Review of short-term fluctuations in the demand for and supply of solid fuels
- 04.2.2 Examination of draught survey techniques and equipment specification for determining the weight of bulk coal cargoes
- 04.2.3 Annual Bulletin of Coal Statistics for Europe
- 04.2.4 Capital formation, costs of production and investment intentions in the coal industry
- 04.2.5 Development of internationally comparable coal statistics
- 04.2.6 Monitoring of the application of the International Codification Systems for Medium- and High-rank Coals

Sub-programme 04.3: Selected technical and economic issues of underground coal mining

Programme elements

- 04.3.1 Technical progress in underground mining processes
- 04.3.2 Economic and organizational issues of underground mining
- 04.3.3 Measures to improve mine safety in underground extraction of coal
- 04.3.4 Development of more efficient mining systems

Sub-programme 04.4: Selected technical and economic issues of opencast coal mining

Programme elements

- 04.4.1 Technical progress in opencast mining processes
- 04.4.2 Economic and organizational issues of opencast mining
- 04.4.3 Environmental aspects of opencast mining

Sub-programme 04.5: Coal research and development issues

Programme elements

- 04.5.1 Review of the activities of national mining research institutes
- 04.5.2 Introduction of computers for process control and data processing in mines
- 04.5.3 Problems of coal extraction at great depth

Sub-programme 04.6: Coal preparation and utilization

Programme elements

- 04.6.1 New coal utilization technologies
- 04.6.2 Utilization of low-calorific-value fuels
- 04.6.3 Preparation of a new international classification of coals
- 04.6.4 Environmental aspects of coal utilization
- 04.6.5 Promotion of wider use of coal in industry and other sectors

PROGRAMME 05 - ENVIRONMENTAL AND WATER PROBLEMS

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems, approved by the Senior Advisers at their third session (ECE/ENVWA/14, paras. 72-81 and Annex V).

Sub-programme 05.1: Policy and management issues

Programme elements

- 05.1.1 Current environmental and water-management trends and policies in ECE countries
- 05.1.2 Environment and economics
- 05.1.3 Environmental and water statistics
- 05.1.4 Legal instrument on transboundary impacts of industrial accidents

Sub-programme 05.2: Environmental impact assessment

Programme elements

- 05.2.1 Frameworks and methodology of environmental impact assessment
- 05.2.2 Convention on environmental impact assessment in a transboundary context

Sub-programme 05.3: Air pollution problems

Programme elements

- 05.3.1 Information on activities of the Executive Body for the Convention on Long-range Transboundary Air Pollution
- 05.3.2 Selected issues of air pollution

Sub-programme 05.4: Low-waste technology and waste management

Programme elements

- 05.4.1 Evaluation of energy- and resource-saving technologies in pulp and paper industry
- 05.4.2 Reduction, replacement, recovery, recycling and re-utilization of industrial wastes
- 05.4.3 Low-waste technology and environmentally sound products
- 05.4.4 Policies and strategies for integrated waste management

Sub-programme 05.5: Water management

Programme elements

- 05.5.1 Ecosystems approach to water management
- 05.5.2 Waste-water management
- 05.5.3 Water-quality objectives and criteria
- 05.5.4 Protection of inland waters against eutrophication
- 05.5.5 Responsibility and liability regarding transboundary water pollution
- 05.5.6 Framework convention on the protection and use of transboundary water courses and international lakes
- 05.5.7 Prevention and control of water pollution from fertilizers and pesticides

Sub-programme 05.6: Flora, fauna and their habitats

Programme elements

- 05.6.1 Assessment of the status of rare, endangered and migratory species in Europe
- 05.6.2 Study of the relationship between economic activities and conservation of flora, fauna and their habitats

PROGRAMME 06 - ELECTRIC POWER

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Electric Power, approved by the Committee at its forty-eighth session (ECE/EP/80, para. 41 and Annex I)

Sub-programme 06.1: Medium- and long-term prospects for electric power

Programme elements

06.1.1 Electric power situation, prospects and policies in the ECE region

Sub-programme 06.2: Electric power generation

Programme elements

06.2.1 Nuclear power stations
06.2.2 Fossil fuel power stations
06.2.3 Hydroelectric schemes
06.2.4 Combined production of electric power and heat

Sub-programme 06.3: Problems of planning and operating large power systems

Programme elements

06.3.1 International interconnections
06.3.2 Maps of high-voltage electric power networks
06.3.4 Electric power systems planning and operation

Sub-programme 06.4: Rational use of electricity, and electricity distribution outside the major urban areas

Programme elements

06.4.1 Rational use of electricity

Sub-programme 06.5: Electric power and the environment

Programme elements

06.5.1 Impact on the environment of electric power stations
06.5.2 Methods of purifying waste water from thermal power stations
06.5.3 Implication of climate change for electricity supply
06.5.4 Perception of environmental impact by overhead power lines

Sub-programme 06.6: Electric power statistics and information

Programme elements

06.6.1 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Electric Energy Statistics for Europe
06.6.2 Selected statistical issues
06.6.3 Exchange of information on international standardization
06.6.4 Co-ordination of glossaries on electric power

PROGRAMME 07 - GAS

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Gas, approved by the Committee at its thirty-sixth session (ECE/GAS/97, paras. 45-46 and Annex I)

Sub-programme 07.1: Medium and long-term prospects

Programme elements

07.1.1 Future role of gas in meeting energy requirements
07.1.2 Long-term development of the LPG industry

Sub-programme 07.2: Current developments in gas, including international trade

Programme elements

07.2.1 Recent developments in gas availabilities and consumption
07.2.2 Intraregional trade in gas
07.2.3 Interregional trade in gas
07.2.4 Co-operation in the field of gas research
07.2.5 Interconnections and extension of gas networks in Europe

Sub-programme 07.3: Gas resources

Programme elements

07.3.1 Geological and geophysical methods of prospecting for natural gas
07.3.2 Exploitation of natural gas, stimulation and enhanced recovery techniques
07.3.3 Assessment of natural gas resources

Sub-programme 07.4: Gas transport and storage

Programme elements

07.4.1 Construction, management and maintenance of gas transport systems
07.4.2 Offshore technology and sea pipelines
07.4.3 Underground gas storage
07.4.4 Large-scale storage of LPG

Sub-programme 07.5: Gas use and distribution

Programme elements

07.5.1 Gas saving and rational use
07.5.3 Efficiency of gas-utilizing appliances and equipment
07.5.4 Use of gases as motor-vehicle fuel
07.5.5 New developments in gas distribution systems and operational practices
07.5.6 Gasification of solid fuels and waste production and use of substitute natural gas
07.5.7 Use of computers in the gas industry

Sub-programme 07.6: Gas statistics and information

Programme elements

07.6.1 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Gas Statistics and of other selected statistical gas issues

Sub-programme 07.7: Gas industry and the environment

Programme elements

07.7.1 Environmental aspects of the gas industry

PROGRAMME 08 - HOUSING, BUILDING AND PLANNING

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on Housing, Building and Planning, approved by the Committee at its fiftieth session (ECE/HBP/76, paras. 66-73 and Annex II).

Sub-programme 08.1: Integrated settlements policies and strategies

Programme elements

- 08.1.2 Human settlements situation and related current trends and policies
- 08.1.2 Comprehensive policies for renewal and modernization of human settlements
- 08.1.3 Human settlements problems in southern Europe
- 08.1.4 Planning for international tourism

Sub-programme 08.2: Urban and regional planning

Programme elements

- 08.2.1 Promotion of international co-operation in the field of urban and regional research
- 08.2.3 Planning for recreation and leisure areas
- 08.2.5 Effectiveness of settlement planning
- 08.2.6 Impact of technological change on urban and regional development (technopoles)

Sub-programme 08.3: Housing policies

Programme elements

- 08.3.1 Housing forecasting and programming
- 08.3.2 Tools and methodologies for elaborating effective housing policies
- 08.3.3 Socio-economic aspects of housing modernization policies
- 08.3.4 Distributional aspects of housing and taxation policies

Sub-programme 08.4: Building

Programme elements

- 08.4.1 Building technology
- 08.4.2 Energy conservation in buildings
- 08.4.3 Promotion of international trade in construction products
- 08.4.4 International harmonization of the technical content of building regulations
- 08.4.5 Building pathology and prevention of disorders
- 08.4.6 Construction in seismic regions

Sub-programme 08.5: Human settlements statistics

Programme elements

- 08.5.1 Development of human settlements statistics

PROGRAMME 09 - INLAND TRANSPORT

Authority: Programme of work of the Inland Transport Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-second session (ECE/TRANS/81, paras. 248-252 and Add.1)

Sub-programme 09.1: Transport perspectives

Programme elements

09.1.1 Review of general trends with regard to transport development and transport policy
09.1.2 Analysis of specific transport economic issues
09.1.3 Development of transport in the Mediterranean Region

Sub-programme 09.2: Transport infrastructure

Programme elements

09.2.1 Road infrastructure
09.2.2 Rail transport infrastructure
09.2.3 Inland waterway infrastructure
09.2.4 Linking of the European transport network to that of other regions

Sub-programme 09.3: Transport vehicles and vessels

Programme elements

09.3.1 Harmonization and improvement of regulations and recommendations for road vehicles
09.3.2 Arrangements for the elimination of technical barriers to international trade of motor vehicles and their equipment and parts
09.3.3 Harmonization and improvement of standards for inland navigation vessels

Sub-programme 09.4: Transport operations and facilitation

Programme elements

09.4.1 Harmonization of requirements concerning international road transport and facilitation of its operations
09.4.2 Harmonization of requirements concerning international railway transport and facilitation of its operations
09.4.3 Harmonization of requirements concerning international inland waterway transport and facilitation of its operations, including the study of legal provisions
09.4.4 Harmonization of requirements concerning more than one mode of transport
09.4.5 Promotion of combined and multimodal transport
09.4.6 Harmonization of regulations and standards relating to the international transport of perishable foodstuffs and facilitation of its operations

Sub-programme 09.5: Transport safety

Programme elements

09.5.1 Road transport safety
09.5.2 Rail transport safety
09.5.3 Inland water transport safety
09.5.4 Safety requirements for the construction, maintenance and handling of containers and piggyback transport equipment

Sub-programme 09.6: Transport of dangerous goods

Programme elements

09.6.1 Establishment and up-dating of general rules for the transport of dangerous goods within the framework of the Economic and Social Council's Committee of Experts
09.6.2 Regulations on the transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, inland waterways and combined transport

Sub-programme 09.7: Transport aspects of energy saving and environmental protection

Programme elements

09.7.1 Promotion of economy and efficiency in transport

09.7.2 Impact of transport infrastructure and operations on the environment including pollution and noise

Sub-programme 09.8: Transport statistics and information

Programme elements

09.8.1 Development of internationally comparable and agreed standards including methods of collection and definitions, concerning inland transport and road traffic accident statistics

09.8.2 Publication of the Annual Bulletin of Transport Statistics for Europe

09.8.3 Publication of Statistics of Road Traffic Accidents in Europe

09.8.4 Publication of the results of the road traffic censuses

09.8.5 Periodical circulation of selected transport information

09.8.6 Harmonization of transport statistics in Europe

09.8.7 Publication of an annual bulletin on transport in Europe

Sub-programme 09.9: Facilitation of movement and transport of disabled persons

Programme elements

09.9.1 Road transport aspects

09.9.2 Rail transport aspects

09.9.3 Inland water transport aspects

PROGRAMME 10 - SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology, approved by the Senior Advisers at their seventeenth session (ECE/SC.TECH/37, paras. 63-64 and Annex I).

Sub-programme 10.1: Medium- and long-term perspectives in science and technology

Programme elements

10.1.1 Science and technology trends in the region and in selected sectors

Sub-programme 10.2: Current developments in science and technology policies

Programme elements

10.2.1 Review of changes in national policies, priorities and institutions, and international co-operation

10.2.2 Evaluation of R and D activities

10.2.3 The role of forecasting in the formulation of science and technology policies

Sub-programme 10.3: Transfer of technology

Programme elements

10.3.1 Manual on licensing procedures

Sub-programme 10.4: Selected issues in science and technology

Programme elements

10.4.1 Inventory of existing safety guidelines in biotechnology

10.4.2 Technology for predicting earthquakes

PROGRAMME 11 - ECONOMIC PLANS, PROGRAMMES AND PERSPECTIVES

Authority: Programme of work of the Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments, approved by the Senior Advisers at their twenty-fifth session (ECE/EC.AD/34, paras. 51-57 and Annex)

Sub-programme 11.1: Exchange of information on medium- and long-term economic development

Programme elements

- 11.1.1 Exchange of information on the medium- and long-term development of national economies
- 11.1.2 Exchange of information on medium- and long-term plans, programmes and projections

Sub-programme 11.2: Long-term projections and perspectives

Programme elements

- 11.2.1 Growth conditions in the period 1991-1995 and their long-term implications
- 11.2.2 Specialized long-term macro-economic data base and further development of the SEM system of macro-economic models

Sub-programme 11.3: Selected medium- and long-term economic issues

Programme elements

- 11.3.1 Trends and factors in the development of personal and collective services and their impact on economic growth
- 11.3.2 International trade and structural changes - interregional and intraregional trends of development
- 11.3.3 Structural changes in employment, labour productivity and working patterns and their impact on economic growth
- 11.3.4 Sustainable economic development

PROGRAMME 12 - STATISTICS

Authority: Programme of work of the Conference of European Statisticians, approved by the Conference at its thirty-seventh session (ECE/CES/34, para. 130 and Annex I).

Sub-programme 12.1: Regional statistical co-operation

Programme elements

12.1.1 Review and promotion of co-ordination of statistical work in the ECE region

Sub-programme 12.2: Organization and operation of statistical services

Programme elements

12.2.1 Use of computers for statistical purposes and design and development of statistical information systems

12.2.2 Methodological issues in the collection, processing, dissemination and analysis of statistical data

12.2.3 Other issues in the organization and operation of statistical services

12.2.4 Use of registers in national statistical offices

Sub-programme 12.3: Methodological development and harmonization of economic statistics

Programme elements

12.3.1 Development and linking of SNA and MPS national accounts and balances systems

12.3.2 Promotion of publication and dissemination of internationally comparable statistics on production, national income, productivity and purchasing power parities (ICP)

12.3.3 Statistics of the distribution of income of households

12.3.4 Development and harmonization of statistical nomenclatures relating to economic activities and goods and services

12.3.5 Price and quantity statistics

12.3.6 Agricultural statistics

12.3.7 General energy statistics

12.3.8 Statistics of engineering industries and automation

12.3.9 Transport statistics

12.3.10 Statistics of services

Sub-programme 12.4: Methodological development and harmonization of social and demographic statistics

Programme elements

12.4.1 Framework for the integration of social and demographic statistics

12.4.2 Development and harmonization of statistical nomenclatures in the field of social and demographic statistics

12.4.3 Co-ordination of selected social and demographic statistics within the FSDS and with national accounts and balances

12.4.4 Population and housing censuses

12.4.5 Labour force statistics

12.4.6 Human settlements statistics

12.4.7 Statistics and indicators on the role and situation of women

12.4.8 Migration statistics

12.4.9 Demographic projections

12.4.10 Fertility surveys

Sub-programme 12.5: Methodological development and harmonization of environment and related statistics

Programme elements

12.5.1 Development of concepts, definitions and classifications in individual areas of environment statistics

12.5.2 Development of an international environmental data service

12.5.3 Methodological problems of environment statistics

12.5.4 Frameworks for environment statistics

Sub-programme 12.6: Statistical support for ECE publications, studies and projects

Programme elements

12.6.1 Publication of statistical bulletins

12.6.2 Support for the statistical work of other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies (including support for the publication of statistical bulletins by other ECE Principal Subsidiary Bodies)

12.6.3 Provision of statistical information for ECE studies and projects

12.6.4 Substantive support for statistical activities financially supported by UNDP

PROGRAMME 13 - STEEL

Authority: Programme of work of the Steel Committee, approved by the Committee at its fifty-seventh session (ECE/STEEL/67, paras. 70-73 and Annex I).

Sub-programme 13.1: Long-term trends and prospects in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

13.1.1 Long-term prospects in the iron and steel industry

Subprogramme 13.2: Current developments and medium-term prospects in the iron and steel industry, including international trade

Programme elements

13.2.1 Short-term developments and prospects in the steel industry and the steel market

13.2.2 Studies of national developments in the iron and steel industry

Subprogramme 13.3: Economic and technological issues in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

13.3.1 Technical and economic aspects of the manufacture and application of coated steel products

13.3.2 Producers' and users' metallurgical requirements in the welding of steel products

Subprogramme 13.4: Environmental and resource issues in the iron and steel industry

Programme elements

13.4.1 Protection against air and water pollution and the utilization of by-products of the iron and steel industry

13.4.2 Steel product quality and maximum utilization of scrap

Subprogramme 13.5: Iron and steel statistics

Programme elements

13.5.1 Development of steel statistics

13.5.2 Publication of steel statistics

13.5.3 Statistics on iron and steel scrap

PROGRAMME 14 - TIMBER

Authority: Programme of work of the Timber Committee, approved by the Committee at its forty-seventh session (ECE/TIM/49, paras. 66-83 and Annex I)

Sub-programme 14.1: Medium- and long-term trends, prospects and policies for forestry and forest products

Programme elements

14.1.1 Appraisal of long-term timber trends and prospects

14.1.2 Medium-term trends in industry structure and markets in specific forest products sectors

14.1.3 Trends, prospects and policies in forestry and forest products in southern Europe

Sub-programme 14.2: Current forest products market developments and short-term prospects, including international trade

Programme elements

14.2.1 Review of production, trade, consumption and prices of forest products

Sub-programme 14.3: Forest technology, management and training

Programme elements

14.3.1 Silvicultural operations and general management aspects

14.3.2 Wood harvesting and transport

14.3.3 Vocational training, applied ergonomics, occupational safety and health

Sub-programme 14.4: Economic, technological and managerial issues for the wood-working industries

Programme elements

14.4.1 Development and introduction of new technologies and management methods in the wood-working industries, including furniture

14.4.2 Development of new products, markets and applications for forest products

14.4.3 Energy conservation and self sufficiency in the mechanical wood-processing industries

Sub-programme 14.5: Environmental and resource conservation issues

Programme elements

14.5.1 Quantification and evaluation of the environmental benefits of forests

14.5.2 Economic, silvicultural, ecological and technical problems of the rational use of forest biomass

14.5.3 Implications of air pollution and other damage to forests for wood supply and markets

14.5.4 Information exchange on occurrences of sudden and severe damage to forests

Sub-programme 14.6: Forest and forest products economics and statistics

Programme elements

14.6.1 Publication of the Timber Bulletin

14.6.2 Selected problems of economics and statistics of forestry and forest products

14.6.3 Forest resource analysis

14.6.4 Transfer of economic and statistical methods and experience in the forest and forest products sector

PROGRAMME 15 - TRADE

Authority: Programme of work of the Committee on the Development of Trade, approved by the Committee at its thiry-eighth session (ECE/TRADE/167, para. 68 and Annex I).

Sub-programme 15.1: Analysis and review of recent and prospective trade trends, policies and problems

Programme elements

15.1.1 Review of recent and prospective trends, policies and problems affecting intraregional trade, including financing and compensation trade

15.1.2 Review of trade and economic co-operation agreements including a Register of such agreements

Sub-programme 15.2: Identification and examination of all kinds of obstacles to the development of trade among ECE member countries, especially in east-west trade, giving due attention to measures for the promotion of trade and diversification of its structure

Programme elements

15.2.1 All kinds of obstacles to the development of trade

15.2.2 Promotion and diversification of east-west trade

Sub-programme 15.3: The development and transparency of market information, marketing and financing techniques and improved business contacts

Programme elements

15.3.1 Information relevant to the promotion of trade and industrial co-operation

15.3.2 East-west business opportunities and trade prospects

Sub-programme 15.4: Promotion of trade through industrial co-operation

Programme elements

15.4.1 Review of recent and prospective trends and policies affecting industrial co-operation

15.4.2 Consideration of means for creating favourable conditions for industrial co-operation

Sub-programme 15.5: International trade procedures, contract practices, trade aspects of regulatory and standardizing activities and commercial arbitration

Programme elements

15.5.1 Facilitation of international trade procedures including documentation, trade data elements and automatic data interchange

15.5.2 Preparation and revision of Guides and General Conditions relating to contracts for international commercial transactions

15.5.3 Standardization and related activities

15.5.4 International commercial arbitration

Sub-programme 15.6: Trade problems of the member countries of the ECE which are developing from the economic point of view

Programme elements

15.6.1 Review of trade problems specific to these member countries and consideration of action regarding of identified problems

15.6.2 Measures to improve trade promotion efforts of these member countries

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